

**Sir Robin Day has pneumonia**

Sir Robin Day, the broadcaster, is in hospital with pneumonia. He was taken ill while presenting *The World at One* on BBC Radio 4 on Tuesday. Sir Robin, 58, is expected to spend several days in the hospital, which has not been named, and to be away from work for several weeks.

**Dail in uproar over acquittal**

The Dail, the Irish Republic's Parliament, was suspended twice in uproar after a dispute over the acquittal last week of the Prime Minister's election agent, Mr Patrick O'Connor, on charges of trying to vote twice in February's general election. Opposition members shouted "Watergate" and "Charlie-gate".

**Showdown on Capitol Hill**

Mr Reagan met Mr "Tip" O'Neill, the Democratic leader, on Capitol Hill for a showdown on his stalled, 1983 budget. The bipartisan negotiations are deadlocked on the issues of military spending, tax cuts and social security benefits. Page 8

**Protests by NHS unions intensify**

More unions have decided to protest against the Government's refusal to improve on its pay offer to nurses and ambulance and ancillary workers, bringing nearer the prospect of disruption to the health service. Page 2

**New York paper in danger**

The New York *Daily News* appeared to be in grave danger after its owners, the Tribune Group of Chicago, announced they had called their agreement to sell it to Mr Joe Allbritton, a Texas financier.

**Vegetable ban**

Imports of Italian leafy vegetables have been banned for two months from tonight to prevent an infection of British crops by Colorado beetles. Page 2

**Israel branded**

Despite bitter United States protests, the General Assembly overwhelmingly condemned Israel for repression in the occupied Arab territories, branding it as a non-peace-loving UN member. Egypt abstained. Israel violence, page 8

**Appeal by Prior**

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, appealed to Ulster politicians not to reject without trial his White Paper on a system of devolved government. Page 2

**Botha meeting**

Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, and Zambia's President Kannda have confirmed that they are due to meet in Botswana tomorrow. Page 8

**BR losses cut**

A loss of £37m last year, compared with a loss of £76m in 1980, but the board expects revenue to drop sharply this year. Page 3

**'Union Day' date**

The TUC has declared June 10 as "Union Day", to be devoted to the explanation of the union's positive role in opposing labour law reforms. Page 2

**Tories in lead**

The popularity of the Government is at its highest since the election, with 39 per cent satisfied with its performance, according to a new MORI poll. Poll, page 2

**Cash safeguard**

The building societies have set up a formal scheme to give investors full protection in the event of a society running into cash trouble. Page 19

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Letters: On the Falklands, from Mr Adam Roberts, and others; death penalty, from Mr Louis FitzGibbon. Leading articles: Falklands, British Airways. Features, page 12

Ronald Reagan: questions over Britain's response to Argentina's action. Obituary, page 14

Sir John Witt

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# Britain to blockade all ships and planes around the Falklands

A new blockade of all ships and aircraft within 200 miles of the Falkland Islands, to come into force at midday (BST) tomorrow, was announced yesterday by the Ministry of Defence. It also revealed that an Argentine prisoner had died in a "serious incident" on South Georgia.

In Washington, where an imminent British landing on the islands was considered almost inevitable, despite attempts being made to salvage the Haig mediation effort. But the military junta in Buenos Aires, while considering the latest American proposals, said it expected fighting within 48 hours.

Mrs Thatcher is to open today's emergency debate in the Commons, the fourth this month. Labour's National Executive Committee backed the line taken by Mr Foot about responding to the United Nations Secretary-General's appeal.

## Task force puts on the pressure Thatcher to open crisis debate

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Britain is "closing" Port Stanley airport under a new blockade of all air and sea routes within 200 miles of the Falkland Islands which will come into force at midday tomorrow. Every ship or aircraft, military or civil — not just Argentine — which is found there without permission will be treated as hostile and may be attacked.

Since April 12 Britain has operated a Maritime Exclusion Zone (MEZ) under which all Argentine warships and naval auxiliaries have been deterred from entering the same area by the hidden threat of nuclear-powered submarines.

Yesterday's announcement in effect heralds the arrival in Falklands waters of Rear-Admiral John Woodward and his task force, whose aircraft and missiles will be able to enforce this far more comprehensive measure.

Psychologically, it will put yet more pressure on the Argentine and the Americans to find a more acceptable peace formula before fighting breaks out in the Falklands.

Militarily, it will seal off the Argentine garrison at Port Stanley from even the hope of further reinforcements, which since April 12 have continued to arrive by air.

Certainly, it will raise expectations, which are already high, of a British assault on the Argentine occupying forces.

Yesterday's statement read: "From 11 am GMT on April 30, 1982, a Total Exclusion Zone (TEZ) will be established around the Falkland Islands. The outer limits of this zone will be the same as for the MEZ established on April 12, namely a circle of 200 nautical miles from latitude 51 degrees, 40 minutes South and longitude 59 degrees, 35 minutes West. The exclusion zone will apply not only to Argentine warships and naval auxiliaries but also to any other ship, whether naval or merchant vessel, which is operating in support of the illegal occupation of the Falkland Islands by Argentine forces.

"The zone will also apply to any aircraft, whether military or civil, which is operating in support of the Argentine occupation. Any ship and any aircraft, whether military or civil, which is found within this zone without authority from the Ministry of Defence in London will be regarded as operating in support of the illegal occupation and will therefore be liable to be attacked by British forces.

"Also, from the time indicated, Port Stanley airport will be closed and any aircraft on the ground in the Falkland Islands will be regarded as present in support of the illegal occupation and accordingly as liable to attack.

"These measures are without prejudice to the right of the United Kingdom to take additional measures which may be needed in exercise of its rights of self-defence under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter."

A Defence Ministry spokesman emphasized that the new zone applied to all ships and all aircraft of any country, it therefore applied to any Soviet spy ships which might be trailing British forces inside the zone. Any one who thought of being in the zone "will I presume have thought hard about the possible consequences."

**Enemy wings**

Principal Argentine carrier aircraft - 12 Skyhawk A4; Super Etendards (on aircraft carrier); 9 Canberra bombers; 68 Skyhawk A4 (fighter/ground attack); 26 Dagger fighter/ground attack; 32 (Israeli-built) Mirage; 32 Paris 11 fighter/ground attack; 19 Mirage interceptors; 45 Pucara (Argentine counter-insurgency aircraft).

Notification of the zone was being given to aviation and hydrographic authorities, together with an explanation of how ships and aircraft with a need to be in the area could seek authority from the Ministry.

The spokesman had a few words of comfort for the Argentine naval auxiliary vessel and two or three patrol craft already at Port Stanley, which seem to be threatened whether they leave or whether they stay. The spokesman said he was sure the Argentine officers concerned would be giving the matter some thought.

Neither Britain nor Argentina would find it easy to operate combat aircraft over the Falklands.

**British-Israeli dispute over arms supplies**

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, April 28

A serious diplomatic dispute has broken out between Britain and Israel over claims that the Israelis have been supplying artillery ammunition to Argentina to assist its emergency arms buying programme. At a reception in Jerusalem tonight, the acting director-general of the Foreign Ministry, Mr Hanan Bar-On, expressed "astonishment" to Mr Patrick Moberly, the British Ambassador, about a Foreign Office statement in London yesterday.

The wording of this statement, the Israelis complained tonight was "likely to enhance utterly unfounded rumours regarding Israel's position in the British-Argentine dispute and to distort her actual policy completely."

Mr Moberly was required to convey Israel's concern to London.

Asked on Israel radio what Britain expected of Israel, Mr Moberly replied simply: "I think we hope for understanding of our position and the issues at stake."

**Argentine prisoner dies in 'incident'**

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

One of the Argentine prisoners captured in the battle of South Georgia last Sunday, has died in a "serious incident" on the island.

Announcing this yesterday, the Ministry of Defence said that it had notified the authorities who are looking after Argentine interests in view of the break in diplomatic relations between London and Buenos Aires.

The incident occurred on Monday, but the ministry has only just learnt the name of the dead man and does not yet know other details.

A board of inquiry has been established in South Georgia on ministry instructions and has been asked to complete its investigation with all urgency. The ministry spokesman said that the measures taken were in accordance with the Geneva Convention.

The dead man was one of 156 taken prisoner on South Georgia. Sixteen of them were captured at Leith, but the incident is believed to have happened at Grytviken. Some 38 Argentine civilians are also being looked after by the British who are controlling the island.

So far, British and Argentine troops taken prisoner have all paid tribute to the humane treatment they have received. All British marines have been safely returned to Britain by the Argentines and the British Government has already made it clear that the prisoners on South Georgia would be repatriated to Argentina.

The ministry spokesman indicated yesterday that 13 British scientists and two women who had been making a life-long film on the island were in the process of moving to the British military encampment at Grytviken from the remotest part of the island where they had been working.

**Big reorganization scheme for British Airways**

By Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent

The ghosts of BOAC (British Overseas Airways Corporation) and BEA (British European Airways), laid to rest in 1974 but never really dead, will fly again next month. They will re-emerge as the intercontinental and European divisions of a decentralized British Airways, with a third Gatwick, or charter division.

But in announcing the change yesterday, his second big step after last year's redundancy plan which cut staff from 58,000 to 42,000, Sir John King, chairman of British Airways, emphasized that the three divisions would stay together in one corporation even when British Airways is sold, in whole or in part, to private interests in 1983-84.

The original BOAC-BEA merger brought advantages, Sir John said, but it went wrong by not doing what he was doing now. "People lost the sense of pride and identity which just got lost in a large centre," he said. "The aim of the new management structure would be to restore interest and pride, to give a competitive edge, interest and standing, to the people who actually ran the businesses."

So far as the public were concerned, it would still be British Airways; but he hoped customers would notice a difference because their managing director of each division would be dedicated to giving them what they wanted. "It is about wanting passengers to want to fly this airline rather than others."

Results this year would be "pretty awful", Sir John added, with a redundancy bill of £200m or more added to an operating deficit that would, however, be rather lower than last year's when the total loss was £141m.

Because of staff reductions that would save £150m to £200m a year, and other measures, he expected British Airways to go into the black towards the end of this year, and 1983-84 to be "quite a decent situation". That would be the time to talk to the Government about financial reorganization, once the airline had become profitable again. And that would be the time when the staff could expect better wage rises.

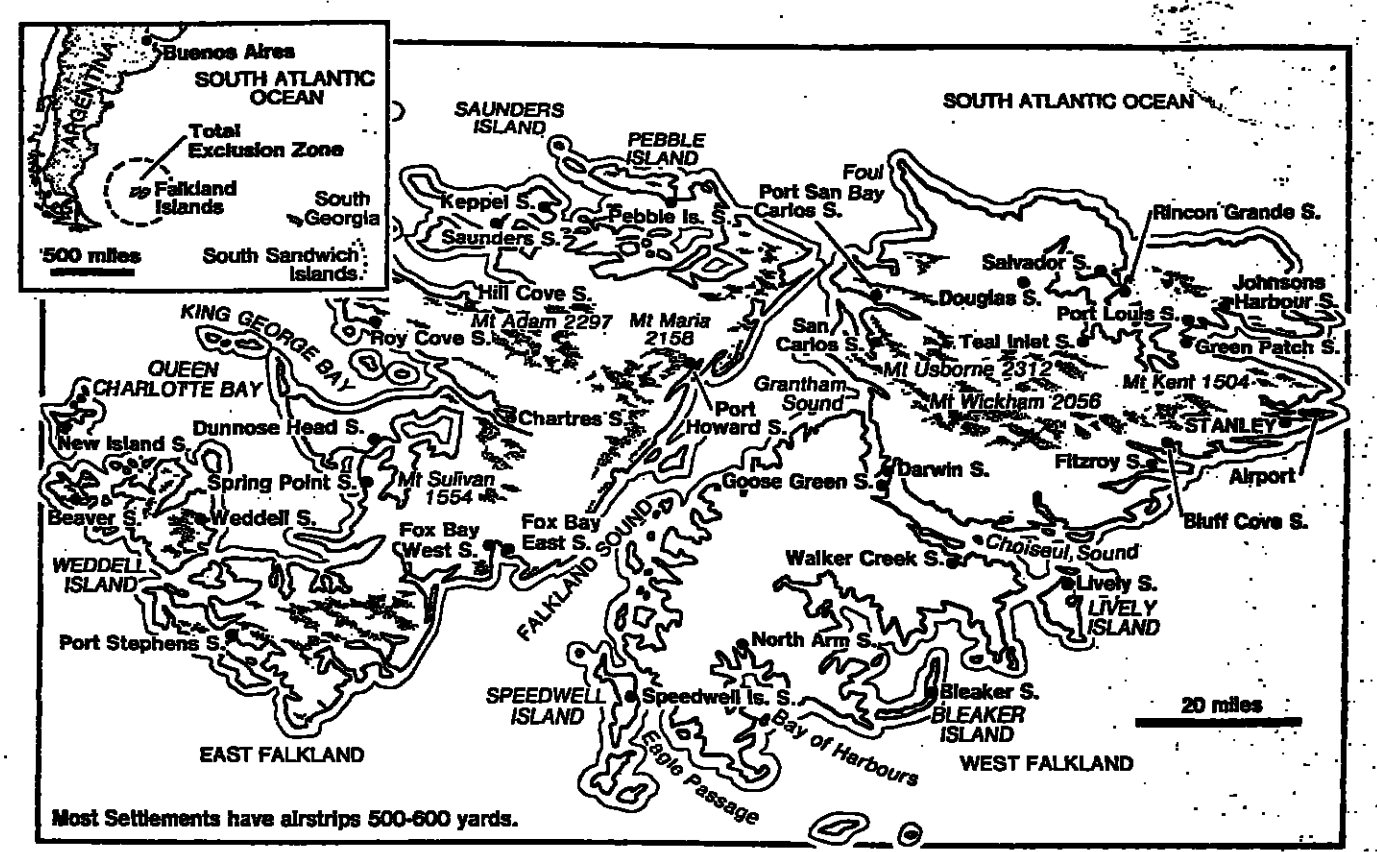
He was not under pressure from the Government to sell assets, such as the IAL telecommunications subsidiary, which was a good business, and the helicopter subsidiary, which was quite a good business. But it may turn out to be necessary to sell some assets — "nothing is sacred in this shakedown" — and that could include the corporation's minority interests in hotels around the world.

A central organization would be retained for flight operations, economic planning, engineering, legal affairs, public relations, and so forth. Sir John said. The operating subsidiaries would be free either to go elsewhere for services, or charge the centre the extra cost of using in-house services.

The main aim of the changes was "to put greater emphasis on profitability by giving managers greater freedom to plan and run their own activities, and making them directly accountable."

There were "massive difficulties still to be overcome, but I am confident that, with the continuing dedication of staff, the long overdue return to profitability can be achieved."

Leading article, page 13



East and West Falklands: the scattered settlements where the islanders may have taken refuge

## US makes last-minute peace effort Haig ready to go 'anywhere any time' to prevent war

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 28

With a British landing on the Falkland Islands considered almost inevitable, the United States was today desperately trying to salvage its three-week-old mediation effort, and to persuade Britain and Argentina to accept its proposals for a peaceful solution to the dispute.

A State Department spokesman today denied reports from Buenos Aires that Argentina had rejected a request by Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, to make a further visit to the Argentine capital to discuss settlement proposals.

The spokesman said that Mr Haig had transmitted the latest American proposals to Buenos Aires earlier this week, and had also presented them to Señor Nicolas Costa Mendez, the Argentine Foreign Minister, when he arrived here on Sunday to participate in the meeting of the Organization of American States (OAS).

Mr Haig was prepared to go anywhere at any time if Britain and Argentina felt that he could be of help in preventing the two countries from going to war in the South Atlantic, the spokesman said.

There has been considerable confusion — caused partly by a series of conflicting reports for Argentina — about the status of Mr Haig's peace mission, and the nature of the latest American proposals.

On Sunday, Señor Costa Mendez said that Argentina was in a "critical position", the spokesman said, adding that the United States hoped to receive a "detailed response" to the British reoccupation of the Falklands.

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South Georgia. However, American officials pointed out that Mr Haig had had numerous telephone conversations with Señor Costa Mendez since his arrival in Washington, and had also had at least two meetings with him during the OAS meeting.

The State Department said that the proposals which have been submitted to the Argentines are the same as those presented to Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, when he was in Washington last week. The spokesman noted that neither Britain nor Argentina had rejected the proposals, though Britain has said that parts of the American plan were "unacceptable".

The spokesman denied Argentine reports that President Reagan had submitted his own settlement plan to Argentina. The Administration was united in its approach to the Falklands dispute, the spokesman said.

Although American officials are trying to convey the impression that their peace initiative is still very much alive — "this is not the final round of discussions", the spokesman said — they have not disguised what they believe to be the gravity of the situation.

"The crisis has reached a critical point", the spokesman said, adding that the United States hoped to receive a "detailed response" to the British reoccupation of the Falklands.

Further blood was shed. "There is no ultimatum and no deadline in responding to the American proposals, other than the reality that the movement of military forces poses a great danger of further escalation", he said.

Officially, the United States is not divulging the contents of its latest proposals, except that they are refinements of ideas evolved during Mr Haig's talks with the British and Argentines. But American sources said that they call for Argentina to withdraw its forces from the Falklands, in accordance with Security Council resolution 502, and for Britain to ease its naval pressure around the islands.

The defusing of the military situation would then be followed by negotiations over the future of the islands, in which the islanders would have the opportunity to express their views. During this interim period the United States would monitor the withdrawal of forces, although it is unclear whether the proposals suggest direct involvement of American military units.

The proposals are intended to get round the two main sticking points in the negotiations — Argentina's insistence that its sovereignty over the islands be guaranteed, and Britain's insistence that the wishes of the islanders should be paramount.

□ Buenos Aires: Argentina was tonight braced for war within 48 hours, despite the apparent arrival of fresh peace proposals from the United States (Christopher Thomas writes). "We have an Continued on back page

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## Import crop banned in beetle alert

A two-month ban on imports of Italian leafy vegetables, to help prevent an infestation of Colorado beetles, was announced yesterday by the Ministry of Agriculture. (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes.) The ban takes effect from midnight tonight and lasts until June 30.

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said the beetle was a serious pest, particularly to potato crops, and the authorities would take whatever action was required to prevent it becoming established in Britain.

"I do ask anyone buying leafy vegetables to be on the lookout and to report immediately any findings of beetles to their nearest police station or Ministry office," he said.

The Colorado beetle is about three-eighths of an inch long and identifiable by the narrow black and yellow stripes which run lengthwise along its wing cases. Another beetle was found yesterday in a consignment of Italian lettuce at Glastonbury, Somerset, bringing the total to 68 in the last three days, compared with 42 in the whole of last year.

The ban covers 31 vegetables including spinach, parsley, broccoli, chicory, asparagus, lettuce, onions and aubergines.

## British tour for Rolling Stones

Mick Jagger, who yesterday announced that The Rolling Stones will celebrate their twentieth anniversary by playing in Britain for the first time since 1976. The group will play to a total of 144,000 people, each paying £10.80, at Wembley Stadium on June 25 and 26. Other British concerts are still to be arranged, including several in halls holding only about 2,000 people.

The concert will be part of a European tour, starting in Rotterdam on June 4 and continuing through Italy, Sweden, France, Germany, Austria and Spain.

## Lorry noise grants plan

The Government plans to designate "lorry action areas" in which residents will qualify for grants to mitigate the nuisance of heavy traffic, Mr Reginald Eyre, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Transport, said yesterday.

Grants would be available for double glazing, he suggested. But he refused to say whether there would be compensation for vibration damage.

## Prince's dive

The Prince of Wales yesterday made his ninth dive to the Mary Rose, the warship which sank at Portsmouth in 1545, and reported that the timbers were in excellent condition. It is hoped to raise the ship this autumn.

## Printing dispute

Production stopped yesterday at the Eric Barmore printing works in Aintree, north Liverpool, because of a pay dispute in the machine room involving 168 members of the National Graphical Association. Barmore is a subsidiary of News International and employs 1,300 in Aintree.

## Child falls 70ft

Karina Chin, aged 5, who fell 70ft from the sixth floor of Giles Close House, Red House Road, Stechford, Birmingham, was recovering in hospital yesterday. She had a broken hip and arm and a hole in her lung.

## Open verdict

Miss Jane Westman, aged 23, a research student at Oxford University, took a bottle of cyanide from her laboratory and swallowed some in her room. An open verdict was recorded on Miss Westman, who was from Sweden.

## Ferry discounts

A cross-Channel ferry operator is offering discounts to ratepayers whose council is spending £1m to improve Ramsgate harbour. Ratepayers in the Thanet district of Kent can claim up to 25 per cent off fares by Selly, the Viking Line.

## NuPe may switch support to the Labour left

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The National Union of Public Employees (NuPe) will be urged next month to take steps which would significantly increase the likelihood of its block vote of 600,000 being cast in favour of a left-wing candidate in a future contest for the Labour Party leadership.

Last year the union unexpectedly played a crucial role in Mr Denis Healey's narrow victory over Mr Wedgwood Benn in the deputy leadership contest after a ballot of the union's members produced a 267,000 to 188,000 majority in favour of Mr Healey.

Three resolutions down for the union's conference in Scarborough, however, criticize the union's executive for not making a clear recommendation to the members on the deputy leadership. It is widely assumed that such a recommendation would have been for Mr Benn.

Two of the three resolutions insist that in future contests for the party leadership and deputy leadership the executive should make a recommendation; the third, from Shropshire Social Services, condemns the executive "for its failure to place before the membership the consequences of voting for Denis Healey."

A further resolution, in a demand which if it had been implemented last year would also probably have produced a recommendation for Mr Benn, proposes that the conference itself should make its preference clear.

Last year NuPe was one of only a small minority of unions to ballot its members on the deputy leadership issue. The outcome was a surprise to the Healey camp, which had feared either that the vote would reflect the publicly expressed personal preference of Mr Alan Fish-

er, the union's general secretary, or, if it did not, that the delegation would overrule it.

In the event, the NuPe executive and delegation abided by the decision. That was in marked contrast to the Transport and General Workers' Union, which eventually cast its vote for Mr Benn despite having found, in consulting its branches, that most of the Union's ordinary members apparently preferred Mr Healey.

The TGWU executive has decided in principle not to repeat the consultation. Of the resolutions demanding a lead by the NuPe executive one from Midlothian says that the executive should "openly recommend support for whatever candidate supports the same policies as this union, thereby securing the support of Labour politicians who have the backbone to fight and not suppress low-paid workers such as NuPe members."

By no means all the resolutions down for the NuPe conference on Labour Party affairs take the same line, however. One from East Lothian District Local Authority congratulates the executive for calling the ballot and then abiding by it and proposes that, in order to extend the democratic process within the union, there should also be a ballot on who the union should support in party national executive elections.

Another resolution, from Nottingham General Hospitals, demands that "never again should NuPe be involved in the vote for the election of Labour's leadership." Such elections, the resolution says, should be restricted to individual party members rather than be open to union members of "all political persuasions".

## TUC leaflet war on June 10 'Union Day'

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

June 10 has been declared "Union Day" by the TUC, on that date, millions of leaflets explaining the "positive role" of trade unions and why they oppose the Government's labour law reforms will be handed out at railway and bus stations, factory gates, shopping precincts and other places.

A small army of union volunteers is being brought into the action to support the central theme of the labour movement's campaign against the forthcoming Employment Act: "Look after yourself—look after your union."

The "Union Day" is a far cry from the "Day of Action" two years ago against Mr James Prior's Employment Act 1980, which sought, without much success, to mobilize workers for a one-day general strike against the Government's curbs on union power.

The emphasis this time is on argument and persuasion rather than the fundamentalist policy of protest strikes in the factories. An "action pack" of posters, leaflets, a pamphlet entitled *Put Your Employer on the Spot* stickers

and other publicity material has been posted to hundreds of thousands of unionized workplaces.

A travelling TUC exhibition on the history of "legal attacks" on unions which highlights the main provisions of Mr Norman Tebbit's forthcoming Employment Act is touring union conferences, and the TUC is holding "briefing conferences" for union officials and activists throughout the country.

Union leaders of 600,000 building and civil engineering manual workers yesterday rejected a 5.2 per cent pay offer that would increase guaranteed minimum earnings in the industry from £86.19 to £90.67 a week. Labourers' earnings would go up from £73.51 to £77.41.

The employers said that the continuing recession in the industry, which was threatening the survival of many firms, limited the scope for improvements in pay and fringe benefits. Further negotiations take place on May 5.

## Tories holding on to their lead, poll says

By a Staff Reporter

The Government is holding its political lead, according to an opinion poll, which gives the Conservatives a 9 per cent lead in the event of an election.

Conservatives would get 40 per cent of the votes, Labour 31 per cent and the SDP/Liberal Alliance slipped from its previous strong position to 27 per cent. In a poll for BBC's *Panorama* on Monday taken before the South Georgia landing, the Conservatives had 39 per cent.

In contrast, 51 per cent of those questioned said that they were dissatisfied with some way the Government was running the country.

The survey was conducted by Market Opinion Research International (MORI) on behalf of *The Sunday Times*. Altogether 1,069 adults of 18+ were interviewed on April 25-26 in 51 constituency samplings throughout Britain.

## Action urged to improve Welsh exam results

By Lucy Hodges

Comparing public examination results in different schools is suggested this week by Her Majesty's Inspector of Education performance of Welsh children, more of whom leave school with no qualifications than their English counterparts.

The percentage of unqualified leavers has been persistently higher in Wales since comparative figures were published in 1970, although, until 1974, when the school leaving age was raised, it was relatively slight. But in 1980 25 per cent of Welsh school leavers were unqualified compared with 12 per cent in England.



Mr William Whitelaw (centre), the Home Secretary, with four former Home Secretaries at a reception in London yesterday to mark the bicentenary of the Home Office. Left to right are Mr Merlyn Rees, Mr James Callaghan, Mr Whitelaw, Mr Roy Jenkins and Lord Carr of Hadley.

## Health service disruption looms as unions unite

By Felicity Jones

The prospect of wide industrial action in the health service grew nearer yesterday as more unions decided to protest against the Government's refusal on Tuesday to improve on its 4 to 6.4 per cent pay offer to nurses and ambulance and ancillary workers.

Hospital members of the National Union of Public Employees (NuPe) in Greater Manchester yesterday anticipated a national ballot on industrial action and protested outside five hospitals.

Emergency cover only was maintained at the 1,000-bed Prestwich psychiatric hospital where 700 NuPe members picketed and turned away non-essential services and contractors.

Mr Stephen Fulton, deputy administrator of Salford Royal Hospital, said that full emergency cover had been agreed beforehand with the unions and services for patients had been unaffected by the demonstration.

The Confederation of Health Service Employees said that half of its 900 branches had been involved in industrial action and estimated that more than 100 hospitals were refusing all except emergency admissions. The union's action has largely taken the form of refusing to carry out administrative work and not working overtime.

Mr Stephen Fulton, deputy administrator of Salford Royal Hospital, said that full emergency cover had been agreed beforehand with the unions and services for patients had been unaffected by the demonstration.

health service members of the General and Municipal Workers' Union (GMWU) agreed to back action with other health service unions. Mr Charles Donnat, GMWU industrial officer, said that they would be calling at the TUC health services meeting today for any form of action to secure a just award barring the removal of emergency cover from patients.

Earlier this week, in a speech to the college's annual congress in Harrogate, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, indicated that he favoured a "new permanent arrangement whereby nurses' pay can be settled each year" as a way out of the dispute.

Discussions between the Department of Health and Social Security and nurses' representatives over a long-term formula began last August. Last month it was agreed to set up a small working party consisting of staff, management, and government representatives to establish the terms of reference, for tripartite talks.

service unions and the college, however, have been cautious about what can be achieved because the government has so far insisted that the formula should be based on what the health service can afford.

At present the college is balloting its members on the government's offer of a 6.4 per cent pay rise. If the members reject the offer the Secretary of State may consider his decision not to submit the dispute to arbitration.

Radioactivity after any nuclear attack may be expected to prevent any organized life-saving work for days or weeks, according to government home defence plans (our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).

Details are in an official circular provided by the Home Office for *The Times* yesterday after nurses complained that they were not being told about their role in the aftermath of a nuclear attack.



Some of the 24 buses destroyed in Armagh, Northern Ireland, yesterday. Five terrorists held up security guards at a depot and planted incendiary devices in the vehicles, worth more than £800,000.

## Prior plea to save initiative

By Hugh Noyes

Parliamentary Correspondent

In a passionate appeal to Northern Ireland politicians not to reject without trial his new initiative for a devolved system of government in Northern Ireland, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State, urged them yesterday not to miss the opportunity simply because they imagined that the future constitution of the Province was up for negotiation between the London and Dublin governments.

With great emphasis, Mr Prior told the House of Commons "it is not" Northern Ireland's constitutional future was and would remain a matter for the people of Northern Ireland, for the British government and for the Westminster Parliament.

Opening the debate on the controversial White Paper "A Framework for Devolution", Mr Prior appealed to politicians on both sides of the Northern Ireland community to save the proposals as a chance to govern themselves responsibly.

Pointing out that neither side could have had everything they sought because positions were at the moment too far apart for that, Mr Prior added that there was no question either of discounting the views of one group to give the other all that it hoped for.

But within minutes of Mr Prior resuming his seat, the almost intractable problems of Northern Ireland were exposed for all to see. Mr James Molyneux, leader of the Official Unionist Party, denounced the proposals in the White Paper as totally unworkable.

Almost at once the Rev Ian Paisley, of the Democratic Unionists, was on his feet. While deploring the power sharing concepts in the White Paper, Mr Paisley gave a general welcome to the proposals for elections.

But, while Mr Prior will have gained some comfort from one section of the unionist brigade, and from the Majority of Tory MPs, the Labour Party and the Liberal—its divisions with Mr Molyneux would appear to be so wide as to be almost unbridgeable.

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## Shock may come in Merton

By Richard Evans

Merton may not provide the political personalities of controversy of neighbouring Lambeth of Wandsworth, but it could present one of the shocks in next month's local elections.

The unglamorous sounding borough, situated in the south west outskirts of London, takes in Wimbledon, Mitcham and Morden and is controlled by the Conservatives who have 39 of the 57 seats.

But party chiefs are only too well aware that the last time they lost power was in 1971 when, like now, a Conservative government was in power at Westminster. It is a "safety and security" borough, one of those discreetly referred to as being "under pressure" by the Tory hierarchy.

In contrast to many areas, education could have a strong influence on voting intentions. Reports by local teachers and the council's director of education have highlighted the effect of cuts and received banner headlines in the local press.

Mr Harry Cowd, the council leader and a headmaster, admits education has taken its fair share of cuts but says there has been no diminution of standards and "high resources do not equate

## LOCAL ELECTIONS

exactly with high standards."

His party's manifesto goes a step further and declares: "Merton's education service is great. Don't let anyone tell you different."

But the SDP and Liberal Alliance is saying that cuts of £4.2m over the last two years will have a disastrous effect unless reversed. Labour points to the "deepening crisis" in Merton's schools.

In spite of Conservatives' claims, they felt obliged this week to host London Week-end television cameras from filming a public meeting held to discuss education and requested notice of questions for their party's speakers.

Mr Allan Jones, chairman of the education committee, said the ban was imposed to ensure the "safety and security" of the building where the meeting took place.

"Television cameras would attract a much larger crowd and the type of crowd one would not wish to attract to that meeting."

On the doorstep, the Conservative are thumping home the council's record of sound financial management.

## Race equality plea to councils

By Lucy Hodges

With one week to go before the local elections, councils were yesterday urged to adopt equal opportunity policies for the different racial groups in their areas and to set up a system of record-keeping and monitoring of ethnic origins.

A report published yesterday by the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE), recommended that local councils set up committees of councillors to review race relations work and appoint working parties of council officers to develop positive ideas and action.

Mr David Lane, outgoing chairman of the CRE, said: "We look to individual candidates to express their views clearly, and to those elected to argue for and develop policies which will achieve genuine racial equality in the time ahead."

At present only 20 to 30

authorities out of about 400 have taken any of the steps which comprise an equal opportunities policy, the CRE said. A further 15 to 20 have adopted ethnic monitoring among their own employees and in housing.

The report draws the attention of local authorities to their duties under the Race Relations Act, 1976. These are to make appropriate arrangements to ensure that, through their various functions, they work to eliminate unlawful racial discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and good race relations.

Mr Lane said local councils had a crucial role to play as providers of services, as employers, as influencers of public opinion and as financiers of the voluntary sector.

The report describes good practice in six areas—

The party's chances will not be hampered by today's edition of the local giveaway paper, delivered to every home. Apart from containing a supplement, paid for by the Conservatives, on the council's record and giving a warning against the "inexperience" of the Alliance and Labour's "hardliners".

The Alliance appears genuinely confident of doing well and has been preparing for the elections since last October when the SDP won a by-election in Labour heartland.

Apart from a "flying squad" of party supporters, the Alliance also has the active canvassing support of Mr Bruce Douglas-Mann, MP for Mitcham and Morden, who recently defected from Labour and fights a parliamentary by-election on June 3.

Mr Ron Haddow, leader of the opposition group on the council, believes many traditional Labour voters will regard Mr Douglas-Mann as a traitor. Labour is basing its campaign on attacking the Conservative record of cuts, and is promising to restore services which have been trimmed.

All the parties are saying they will emerge with the biggest number of councillors so there is certain to be disappointment.

Bradford, Liverpool, Coventry, Leicester, Haringey and Lambeth.

The CRE said it was desirable to achieve action on an all-party basis, as had happened in Bradford.

Mr Lane said the commission was not satisfied with what local authorities were doing at present. "We are saying you are not doing enough," he said. "Please do more and please go faster."

The most controversial recommendation will be on ethnic monitoring, about which the House of Commons select committee on employment is lukewarm. It is likely that a number of local authorities will have similar doubts.

Local Government and Racial Equality: Free from Commission for Racial Equality, House, 122 Abington Street, London, SW1.

## Controversial chronometer makes £4,620

By Geraldine Norman

Sale Room Correspondent

A marine chronometer, claimed to be an epoch-making innovation by Christie's last year and estimated to break auction records at a price approaching £100,000, was sold to a Terence Camilleri Cuss, the London dealer, for £4,620 yesterday. Behind this apparent inconsistency lies an extraordinary squabble between horologists and horological dealers, leaving an outstanding debt which Christie's lawyers are still attempting to collect.

Keith Hamham Ltd, the London dealer, originally consigned the timekeeper to Christie's for sale. Christie's apparently lent money on the piece.

Christie's were very excited when the timekeeper first came in for sale. The appearance of the chronometer suggested a date in the 1770s. But it incorporates a spring detent mechanism for which Thomas Earnshaw took out a patent in 1781. Christie's timekeeper appeared to rewrite horological history—or so they claimed.

The claim was published in *The Times* but swiftly disputed. Three horologists wrote in to express their view that the piece was made for use on the workshop bench for regulating the parts of timekeepers under manufacture and put together from parts of varying date.

The chronometer came up for sale on June 3, 1981. Far from matching the previous record of £62,000, it was bought in at £30,000.

Yesterday the timekeeper came up for sale again. On this occasion Christie's quoted their 1981 catalogue, but also put forward the view that various parts of the construction could have taken place at different dates.

## Science report

## UK clears chemical withdrawn in US

By Hugh Clayton

Scientists who report to ministers have cleared a substance used for food packaging in Britain, although it has been banned in the United States. The substance has been examined by three committees of scientists, and each has decided that the amount taken in by people is so small that it presents no danger.

The substance is acrylonitrile, which has been used more in recent years as plastics have taken over from cardboard and glass. The substance is used widely in tubs and bottles and occurs most often in margarine tubs. It was discovered in the nineteenth century, and in recent years has been developed to take full advantage of its properties of toughness and resistance to corrosion.

The substance has been cleared for use in Britain by the Committee on Carcinogenicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment; the Food Additives and Contaminants Committee; and most recently by a working party, which reported to the Steering Group on Food Surveillance.

The Food and Drugs Administration in the United States is being sued by a chemical company because the administration reversed an order allowing the use of bottles containing high levels of acrylonitrile. Such bottles are useful for industry because of their ability to withstand gas pressure. A similar bottle is used for a small extent in Britain for fizzy drinks, the steering group says.

The substance has been banned in the United States because one series of experiments on rats showed that animals which received the substance in drinking water over two years had higher than normal numbers of cancerous tumours.

"It has been known for some time that acrylonitrile is toxic by ingestion, inhalation of vapour, or absorption through the skin," the steering group said in a recent report to ministers. The carcinogenicity committee decided last year that there was evidence "at least compatible" with the conclusion that the substance can cause cancer in man.

The steering group investigated tests which showed that the amount of acrylonitrile absorbed by people who ate soft margarine had fallen sharply between 1975 and 1979. Chemicals in food containers can be absorbed by the food during storage and a minute amount of acrylonitrile is eaten by people who buy it in plastic tubs, which contain the substance.

Tests conducted in the late 1970s showed that the amount eaten was falling because of the smaller amounts used in the packaging industry. The scientists concluded that the affair showed the value of co-operation between the Government and industry and decided that "the general public are not at measurable risk from acrylonitrile in food". Survey of Acrylonitrile: Food Surveillance Panel 6, Stationery Office, £2.60.

## Karpov defeats Portisch in great style

By Harry Golombek

Chess Correspondent

Round 12 in the Phillips and Drew King's Tournament at County Hall, London, saw a new least squares World champion Anatoly Karpov at last, playing in the great style we have been accustomed to see from him, defeated Lajos Portisch in a game where he maintained and increased the pressure almost from the very start.

Karpov now leads with 7½ points and Ulf Andersson, who theoretically could overhaul him, is likely to lose his adjourned game against Tony Miles, the English Grandmaster.

Lajos won a typical cut and thrust game against the former world champion Boris Spassky and Timman scored an incisive victory over Nigel Short. There are no matches today.

Scores at the end of round 12: Karpov 7½, Andersson 6½, Miles 6, Short 6, Timman 5½, Spassky 5½, Short 5½, Portisch 5½, Adams 5½, Byrne 5½, Gelfand 5½, Hübner 5½, Kramnik 5½, Leko 5½, Nunn 5½, Polgar 5½, Svidler 5½, Topalov 5½, Ulf 5½, Van der Vliet 5½, Vukobratovic 5½, Zaitsev 5½.

Overseas selling prices: Argentina \$20, Bahrain \$20, Belgium \$20, Canada \$20, Denmark \$20, France \$20, Germany \$20, Greece \$20, Hong Kong \$20, India \$20, Italy \$20, Japan \$20, Korea \$20, Malaysia \$20, Mexico \$20, Netherlands \$20, New Zealand \$20, Norway \$20, Pakistan \$20, Philippines \$20, Portugal \$20, Saudi Arabia \$20, Singapore \$20, South Africa \$20, Spain \$20, Sweden \$20, Switzerland \$20, Taiwan \$20, Thailand \$20, Turkey \$20, USA \$20, USSR \$20, Yugoslavia \$20.

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# Rail loss down, but board predicts revenue slump

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

British Rail yesterday reported a loss last year of £17m compared with £76m in 1980. But that was mainly because of £110m of extra grant unexpectedly announced in November by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, to help passenger business over the recession.

The other area of improvement was freight which had losses from £53m in 1980 to £25m, a remarkable achievement with industry at low ebb.

But in announcing the results yesterday, Sir Peter Parkes, British Rail chairman, said that even without further industrial action, which most people in the industry are expecting when Lord McCarthy reports there will be a sharp deterioration in the year. Net revenue losses already amount to £60m to £70m because of the January strikes.

"As I write," Sir Peter says in a special section of the annual report headed *Change*, we are awaiting the decision of the tribunal. Whatever the outcome, 17 days of strikes in the first six weeks of 1982 have seriously damaged the industry.

"There are no victories at the end of strikes which have weakened our financial base and taught our competitors how to mind our business."

But "the board is dedicated to modernizing the railway. That includes modernizing the pay and conditions of railwaymen and women; it also means deserving by proven performance a new approach to finance and investment."

"The Aslef [Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen] strikes have disrupted the progress of recent years, but they have not diverted us from our objectives."

For the first time for four years British Rail failed to stay within its external financial limits, exceeding the £920m limit by £40m. That

was in spite of investment spending at £308m, being £93m below the permitted ceiling because of cash limit constraints.

The board is still hoping for electrification in spite of the tough new conditions set by the Government before approving further schemes. "I am convinced that the future railway will be electrified because, once done, that is the cheapest railway to operate for the country," Sir Peter says.

"On the Channel tunnel, he says: 'There seems now a real chance at last that the railway passenger by the end of the decade, might travel in comfort and at a reasonable price between London and Paris or Brussels in little more than four hours'."

The likely choice is a single seven-mile tunnel limited to rail in the first place. But Sir Peter says that "light at the end of the tunnel has proved so often a false dawn."

Highlights from the annual report are:

Passengers: Receipts passed £1,000m for the first time, 7 per cent up at £1,023m. But in real terms that was a drop of 4 per cent on 1980. Passenger journeys at 71m were down 5 per cent and passenger miles at 19,100m 3 per cent down.

About a third of revenue came from reduced fares and special promotions, with Railcards continuing to boost revenue. Coach travel identified on inter-city routes and cost the board and estimated £10m.

Freight: Losses were cut by more than half to £25m.

BR PASSENGER TRAFFIC, ESTIMATED RESULTS 1981

| Direct expenses and revenue | Direct Expenses | Revenue | Contribution to Indirect Costs |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------|--------------------------------|
|                             | £m              | £m      | £m                             |
| Inter-City                  | 344             | 472     | 128                            |
| London and South East       | 316             | 423     | 107                            |
| Other provincial services   | 141             | 88      | (73)                           |
| PTE services                | 83              | 81      | (22)                           |
|                             | 884             | 1,024   | 140                            |

Carriage increased slightly to 154 tonnes, with coal, iron, and steel up. But those gains were offset by falls in petroleum and aggregates.

The network of high-speed wagonload services to 72, and carriages to 3.5 million tonnes a year. Parcel revenue fell 15 per cent to £113m after withdrawal from the loss-making collected and delivered sector, but Red Star express parcels developed new service improvements.

Sealink: loss of £700,000; hotels a loss of £24m; property a surplus of £37m; and Freightliner a surplus of £100,000.

Manpower: Rail staff fell by 7,662 or 4 per cent in the year, and total British Rail staff was down 12,428 to 227,252. In one year 12,700 railway establishment posts were abolished, a third of the 38,300 reduction sought over five years.

About 90 per cent of passenger trains arrived on time or within five minutes compared with 89 per cent in 1980. The average was 5.33p a mile compared with 4.82 in 1980 and the government grant a mile 2.30.

Only 1.1 per cent of trains were cancelled compared with 1.4 in 1980, another statistic due to be knocked flat by Aslef disputes this year.

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The E.P.E.A.s concern followed Foreign Office confirmation of preliminary discussions between the British and United States governments on the possible export of plutonium.

The renegotiation arises from a deal made during the Wilson Labour administration when the Anglesey Aluminium smelter was established. Mr England explained in his statement that in order to make the use of electricity more attractive at the smelter, the CEBG agreed that valuable plutonium from Dungeness B could be transferred to the Department of Energy, one of the partners in setting up smelter. The clause has not hitherto been implemented because Dungeness B has not yet come on stream.

Mr England said that the arrangement had been made for "commercial reasons which seemed good at the time". But he added: "I am satisfied this needs action by the board, and action will be taken. The contract will be changed in a way that will restore to the board total control of the plutonium which is in the smelter."

That will put this unsatisfactory situation right. "I am not aware of any other route by which plutonium can leave the board's control. I believe we can maintain this separation between civil and military uses."

Lord Windlesham: 'Too many catch questions'. Considerations were paramount, subsequent events had in several instances worked out differently from those envisaged.

On satellite broadcasting, Lord Windlesham said five more television channels might sound a great deal, but they represented only the beginning. Two channels have been allocated to the BBC and the Independent Broadcasting Authority has expressed interest in the three others. But he asked whether it was realistic to expect the independent companies to try to finance one or more of the new channels.

He said he favoured a system of open tender, "getting right away from the rather squalid scramble to assemble a list of imposing looking names that may find favour with the members of a public authority dispensing patronage."

Some form of regulation would be needed to maintain standards, but he would rather see the detailed regulations added after the new regulations had been encouraged to take root, rather than devising restrictions and controls in advance.

He thought the Department of Industry should be authorized to seek tenders for the remaining three DBS [direct broadcasting by satellite] channels. It had the necessary technical knowledge to determine the shape and form of the tenders and to assess the relative merits of any bids that might result.

On television the allocation of independent television franchises, he said: "The methods adopted and the decisions taken represent an arbitrary proceeding the like of which we have not seen for many a long day and I hope never will be allowed to occur again."

The impact of "this great lottery", the great upheaval in terms of the programmes screened on independent television, was showing itself to be minimal, he said. Where administrative and financial

recognition that there are sections of the community, particularly among the young, who are being left out of the picture. The force had 60 coloured police officers on its establishment of 6,684, which was a higher proportion than any other in the country.

Sir Philip Knights, Chief Constable of the West Midlands, said yesterday that the potential extent of last summer's riots was much reduced in the region largely because of his force's policy of close involvement with the community.

In his annual report he said: "The wisdom of our community relations programme was clearly indicated in that our liaison structures were tried and tested and found not to be wanting. It must be acknowledged yet again that to maintain an efficient police response the cooperation of the community is essential."

However, despite the indication that the force was on the right lines, "it must be recognized that there are sections of the community, particularly among the young, who are being left out of the picture. The force had 60 coloured police officers on its establishment of 6,684, which was a higher proportion than any other in the country."

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## CEGB to close plutonium loophole

By Donald McIntyre, Labour Correspondent

The Central Electricity Generating Board is re-negotiating a contract with the Department of Energy to ensure that it maintains full control of plutonium which might be used by the United States for its nuclear weapons programme.

Mr Glyn England, the board's chairman, has privately disclosed to union leaders and staff that the agreement covering plutonium waste from the Dungeness B power station is being renegotiated to close the only route by which British plutonium could leave the board's control.

At the same time, Mr England has pledged both to the unions and in a statement to staff at the Sizewell A power station, that the board will maintain a clear "separation between military and civilian use" of any plutonium, of which it may dispose.

Mr England's unprecedented assurance comes at a time of mounting pressure on the board from unions in the power supply industry to ensure that British-sourced plutonium is not exported to the United States to assist President Reagan's expanding nuclear missile programme.

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One of the 150 handicapped children from London who were taken by 75 London taxi drivers for a day trip to Boulogne yesterday. P and O Ferries provided free passage from Dover for the children, taxis, drivers and helpers and Boulogne Chamber of Commerce organized a tour of the town and a small gift for each child.

## MPs seek changes in college spending

By Lucy Hodges

The control of spending on higher education should be better coordinated, with one or more bodies being set up to oversee the whole area, the Public Accounts Committee recommended yesterday.

In its eleventh report the committee said it was encouraged to hear that the steps taken in the universities were proving remarkably effective in controlling costs, and it welcomed the structure being developed in the local authority sector to cut spending.

"We think it unfortunate, however, that these improvements have been delayed until many of the difficult decisions about closing or reducing facilities at universities have already been taken or are about to be taken," the report said.

It noted that 18.2 per cent more students were enrolled at polytechnics this academic year compared with last (in universities there was a 4 per cent drop).

The report added: "We consider that the new arrangements for local authority higher education should be developed in conjunction with the University Grants Committee and representatives of higher education institutions so as to provide the means of allocating the total funds available for higher education to the best possible advantage."

At the same time the MPs welcomed the steps being taken to assess the needs of each university individually in the light of national requirements. "We trust that the University Grants Committee will consider allowing a university to adjust to the needs of its own area of activity over a longer period than the three years objective if it can show in its own

case that this would be more cost-effective", they added.

On the question of staff redundancies, which are expected to cost £100m, the committee said it accepted that academic freedom must be protected by security against arbitrary dismissal, but it thought that the protection of academic freedom should be distinguished from immunity from genuine redundancy.

The other area examined by the MPs was overspending by voluntary aided schools of £2.8m in 1980-81. Those schools could claim for repairs without prior approval from the Department of Education and Science.

Procedures have now been tightened up and the department is now insisting that all repairs and minor capital work costing more than £100 should be referred to it first for approval. The committee was concerned that this sum might be too low and recommended that it be reviewed at an early date.

The procedures of giving capital grants to such schools is also being changed and the department will henceforth be marking an allocation for them.

In an attempt to halt the decline in its numbers, overseas students and encourage others to apply to study, Leeds University is to award scholarships worth £1,000 a year to offset the full cost fees which, because of government policy, overseas students are now charged. Up to 70 scholarships will be awarded from October this year and about 100 from October next year (Ronald Kishaw writes).

Eleventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1981-82, (Department of Education and Science, University Grants Committee, House of Commons Paper 175, Stationery Office, £4.65).

## BBC Symphony Orchestra faces long tour

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The BBC Symphony Orchestra begins the most arduous tour it has undertaken when it leaves London May 2 for Australia, via Bahrain and Singapore, returning by way of Hongkong on May 26.

Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, chief conductor from 1978-81, and John Pritchard, chief conductor designate, the orchestra will give nine concerts in 13 days in Australia, travelling up to 300 miles between concerts, before giving five concerts in Hongkong.

The soloists on the tour are Ida Haendel, Heather Harper and Victoria Postnikova. The orchestra will perform a wide range of British music, including works by Tippett, Maxwell Davies, Britten, Vaughan Williams and Elgar. It will also play the *Hammerklavier* Portrait.

The Conservative-dominated House of Commons voted 38 to 10 with seven abstentions late on Tuesday not to withdraw hunting rights on its land in south-west Surrey, even though councillors were advised by their state that hunting on some council land "conflicts with the very considerable natural history importance of the area."

Mrs Fay Funnell, of the Camberley Animal Rights Group, and one of the organizers of the national group Coordinating Animal Welfare, said councillors had brushed aside their officers and public opinion.

The Camberley group and the Farnham Animal Rights Group said in a joint statement: "Until a compassionate government outlaws the killing of animals for fun, direct action against bloodsports will be stepped up."

The Establishment who come under attack," he said. "The police must not be partisan. They must maintain a balance and must ensure that minorities can demonstrate and canvas support."

They must protect the rights of workers in conflict with employers, and support those against generally accepted policies. "Equally, they must protect those who take an opposite view and do not wish to become involved," Mr Gregory said.

Crimes reported in West Yorkshire totalled nearly 139,000 last year, an increase of 8.6 per cent on the previous year. The most disturbing rise, the chief constable said, was in crimes of violence.

Public confidence in the police would soon be eroded if their direction and control became a political issue, Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, said in his annual report, published yesterday (the Press Association reports).

"Impartial enforcement of the law is of little consequence to the underprivileged if their fears or grievances are ignored, and if the police are the symbol of

## £1.5m replica of Cook's ship planned

The Yorkshire town of Whitby is to build a £1.5m oak replica of Captain's Cook's ship, the Endeavour, using copies of the original plans. The ship will take three years to complete.

The Founders Committee, which is chaired by Lord Dwyer, said yesterday that they planned to make it a living showpiece of craftsmanship on the River Esk.

Although the organizers have been promised support from the English Tourist Board and the United Nations Trust, which has made a small token donation, a substantial backer is now required.

Mr Thomas Skinner, the university secretary, was equally pessimistic about the future and aggrieved by the Government's attitude. He said that when the university made the savings request, the Government just imposed further economies. A cut of 23 per cent in grant had been imposed at short notice in a university that less than two years ago had been actively encouraged to double the number of its students.

Professor A. Logie Walker, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, said Aberdeen University made a greater proportion of contribution to the National Health Service than any other, yet it faced much bigger cuts than other medical schools in Scotland.

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## University relents on staff jobs

From Jonathan Wills, Aberdeen

Aberdeen University teachers have won their fight against compulsory redundancies but the 487-year-old university still faces long-term decline because of government cuts.

The university court yesterday (Wednesday) informed the faculty, the body responsible for academic standards, that it had reversed its previous decision and that no compulsory redundancy notices would be issued this year.

In March, the court said that 57 academic staff would have to be made redundant for the university to balance its accounts. About 100 staff have already agreed to go voluntarily, in addition to 200 technical and administrative posts which were not filled when they became vacant.

The court's change of mind marks a significant victory for the Aberdeen Association of University Teachers. The union has called in a firm of accountants to prove that the university's deficit for 1982/3 would be only £150,000 out of a total budget of about £30m, and that compulsory redundancies were therefore unnecessary.

It is still possible that more than twenty academics will have to go in 1983/4. Dr Jürgen Thomanack, the local secretary of the union, and a lecturer in the German department, said yesterday that in spite of the resolution of the recent dispute over redundancies between the court and the faculty, the university was still depressed and demoralized.

Dr Thomanack said the union had been ready to sacrifice in an attempt to prevent the decline in Aberdeen's standards of excellence in teaching and research. Unfortunately, many of the best and most experienced teachers had accepted redundancy. The task of those who were left would be much harder.

Mr Thomas Skinner, the university secretary, was equally pessimistic about the future and aggrieved by the Government's attitude. He said that when the university made the savings request, the Government just imposed further economies. A cut of 23 per cent in grant had been imposed at short notice in a university that less than two years ago had been actively encouraged to double the number of its students.

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## Firebombs wreck 24 buses

A firebomb attack on a bus in Armagh left 24 buses burnt out in Northern Ireland early yesterday (Craig Seaton writes from Belfast). Five masked and armed men held up two security guards at the Ulsterbus depot and planted incendiary devices in the vehicles, which were worth more than £800,000.

Before they escaped the men left a car across the entrance and police and firemen had to wait to find out if it contained a bomb. By the time the all clear was given the buses had been burning for nearly an hour.

Only for buses were left undamaged. The several thousand schoolchildren and many workers left without transport. Yesterday the company said the wrecked vehicles would be replaced by the weekend.

## Fire rescue



# Politicians in Ulster must work together

## ULSTER

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, expressed the hope in the Commons that Northern Ireland politicians on both sides of the community would see the Government's proposals for devolved government of the province for what they were — a chance to govern themselves responsibly and in the interests of everybody.

Opening a debate on the proposals in the White Paper Northern Ireland: A Framework for Devolution, Mr Prior said he outlined the steps the Government proposed to take for the resumption of devolved government in Northern Ireland after eight years of direct rule.

The White Paper recognised the deep-seated and intractable nature of the divisions in Northern Ireland and made no exaggerated claims for the future.

There had been some improvement in the last few months in the security position, which was greatly to the credit of the security forces. But there was a continuing and determined effort by the Provisional IRA to thwart all efforts towards peace and stability.

There had been a sharp deterioration in the economic situation. The image of Northern Ireland as a violent community was a grave disservice.

The Government had made plain that the views of the people of Northern Ireland on whether or not to remain part of the United Kingdom would be respected. A united Ireland was a legitimate political objective if pursued peacefully and those who aspired to it were properly entitled to full participation in public life.

But given the views of the majority of the Northern Ireland people on this issue constructive debate about the administration of Northern Ireland must take place in a United Kingdom setting.

He hoped none of the politicians in Northern Ireland would miss the opportunity the proposals afforded simply because they imagined that the future constitutional position of Northern Ireland which was the core of political division in the province, was up for negotiation between the two sovereign governments in London and Dublin. It was not.

Northern Ireland's constitutional future was, and would remain, a matter for the people of Northern Ireland, for her Majesty's Government, and for this Parliament. It would be folly for anyone to think otherwise.

There were a few in Northern Ireland who would seek to draw comparisons with themselves and the Falkland Islands.

We hope and pray (he said) that bloodshed can be avoided in the South Atlantic, but much blood had been spilled by our soldiers, the security forces and the police in Northern Ireland in their gallant fight against terror-

ists and murderers. We do not tire of our responsibilities; we have not shirked them. In this week of crisis we seek a new initiative.

We have suffered losses in life, of resources (he said), in the cause of defending our people. The people of Great Britain are wholly steadfast in their resolution to support the campaign against terrorism. They ask in return that the people of Ulster should resolve to seek solutions to their own problems. In this all politicians can help. That much is expected and, I think, justly expected.

The House was being asked to make special provision for Northern Ireland in return for greater harmony. Parliament's consent to transfer of devolved powers would not be sought until widespread agreement had been reached between the Ulster communities.

Such an agreement (he said) is a prize of great value which would contribute greatly to the peace and prosperity of Northern Ireland.

The present proposals were different from those which had gone before. He was deliberately not suggesting what form a devolved government should take.

Leaders of both sides of the community in Ulster have criticized (he continued) because they have not been given what they wanted. Yet in no way could they have everything they want.

Positions are too far apart for that, as what they have been saying clearly illustrates. Agreed solutions now, before there was an assembly and before politicians had had chance to sit down and work together were simply not on. But doing nothing was not right, either.

We have attempted in this situation (he continued) to narrow some of the disagreements and to devise proposals which would allow them progressively to be narrowed further. That seems to us a way ahead — steadily to persevere along what I fully recognize will be a difficult path.

Once elected, it would be for the assembly to frame devolution proposals, but the assembly would have other vitally important functions pending devolution. During this phase direct rule would continue but the assembly would be able to scrutinize the work of the Northern Ireland departments and advise on proposed legislation for Northern Ireland currently enacted by order-in-council. Another key feature would be committees, corresponding to each of the Northern Ireland departments.

In the very long run he would hope that matters concerning law and order could be transferred to the assembly. In the short run it would be appropriate to have discussions between the Secretary of State and representatives of the parties to see what informal arrangements could be made to try to create a liaison between the assembly on the one hand and the Secretary of State

on the other, on security matters.

He wanted to make it plain that responsibility for security rested with the Secretary of State. Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU): Is it the case that under his proposals the assembly will have no power to debate security?

Mr Prior: Yes, it is.

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, Dem U): Each local authority in Northern Ireland has security commitments. It is a bit of a farce that local councillors can meet police and Army chiefs and discuss matters that concern the right to live and yet the assembly would be denied this important task and responsibility.

Mr Prior: This is a matter for discussion as to what role the assembly could have. It is the firm view of the Government that matters of law and order must remain with the Secretary of State, who is responsible to this House, at any rate for a period of time.

The Government would be prepared to discuss what other arrangements could be made to give to a committee of the assembly or the leaders of the parties on the assembly access to the Secretary of State to discuss matters concerning security. It is in that way that we could draw the Assembly and the Secretary of State closer together.

Thus from the outset an elected Northern Ireland assembly would, for the first time in eight years, directly influence the Secretary of State.

Proposals would greatly improve direct rule by subjecting it to detailed local scrutiny. The devolved assembly would have a crucial role in making direct rule more responsive to Northern Ireland opinion.

In parallel with these responsibilities the assembly would be able to make proposals for proceeding either directly to full devolution, with all the powers devolved, or to a second stage, where the assembly and a Northern Ireland administration answerable to it, or to partial devolution, with only some responsibilities devolved.

I believe that, for example (he said), it should be possible for the assembly perhaps to agree on some of the less controversial powers and to leave the more controversial powers until perhaps the assembly has settled down and begun its work. I have a feeling that we ought to try to say that everything has to be devolved at once or that nothing must be devolved. If we do it in that manner, there is a chance that it may be successful.

The 70 per cent requirement related solely to proposals for devolution and not to voting in the Assembly once devolution had taken place. On key issues of devolution, the assembly might propose a specified majority but that would have to be settled by the assembly as part of the agreement leading up to devolution.

The proposals had avoided stipulating how the Northern



Prior: New initiative

Concanon: Misgivings

Ireland administration should be composed. Appointments would be made by the Secretary of State and changes could be made after consultation with the parties.

His proposals did not end direct rule but had been described by others as a do-it-yourself devolution kit. They offered the people of Northern Ireland the opportunity to come to terms with the realities of their situation. That opportunity should be taken.

Mr Dennis Concanon, chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Monaghan, Lab) said the Opposition supported the general concept of the proposals but there were omissions and defects. Despite these misgivings, they would not be pressing for a revision.

The Opposition believed any proposals should be based on a direct rule which was regarded by all as only a second best and should be viewed as a stepping off stone to other areas.

There were no illusions about the problems of achieving such reconciliation and reunification. Direct rule was regarded by all as only a second best and should be viewed as a stepping off stone to other areas.

Parliament must be able to scrutinize the application of political power in Northern Ireland. They must retain the office of Secretary of State even if the maximum powers had been devolved.

Mr Humphrey Atkins, the former Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Spalding, C) said so long as direct rule is in place, the people of Northern Ireland would be denied the campaign of violence.

I do not think (he said) the option of doing nothing, of continuing the existing arrangements year after year, is one that is open to us. It is our duty to seek some improvement in the ways of governing Northern Ireland.

These proposals offer an opportunity for the people of Northern Ireland to obtain what they want, or what they said they wanted when I was there — more control by people they have elected over their affairs.

Mr James Molyneux (Antrim, South, Off UU) said that Mr

# Unnecessary cruelty in prisons

## HOUSE OF LORDS

Much of the cruelty in prisons was palpably unnecessary, the Earl of Longford (Lab) said when opening a short debate on prisons. The Home Secretary (Mr William Whitelaw) had said if there were no significant reduction in the prison population, he would take legislative action. The Earl of Longford declared: "I call on him, as a man of honour, to honour that commitment."

A prisoner should have the right, he said, to have his case heard by an independent tribunal within five years of his arrest and after five years he could apply for such a tribunal which might or might not be immediately granted him. He was not dogmatic about the 10-year-of-five-year figures but the principle was irrevocable.

So much of the cruelty was palpably unnecessary. It did not spring from the inhumanity of individuals in the prison service but from the lack of a principle which was irrevocable.

Lord Avebury (L) said if remission was increased, the courts might tend to counter the effect by giving longer sentences. That was why a general reduction in the maximum length of sentences should be considered by the Government.

Lady Farnham (C) said it should be beyond the wit of men to have a central register of empty buildings to be used for hostels, secure units or prisons. People should be encouraged to have imagination and creativity, and use buildings already there instead of spending money on new buildings.

Lord Eversham-Morgan (Lab), for the Opposition, said the overcrowding crisis was so menacing that it demanded people's instant and best efforts to combat it.

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Lord Hunt (SDP) said that nothing would alter the situation so much as not only with regard to prisons but also to incidence of crime, except the intervention of Parliament to change the pattern of sentencing was constantly kept under scrutiny.

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There was something to be said for giving executive release powers to the Home Secretary as a temporary measure, but granting amnesty to prisoners in the last part of their sentence in time of crisis. Composite sentences would have several advantages in reducing the prison population, and making enormous savings on the cost of keeping prisoners inside prison buildings and increased

general criticism that they were passing sentences which were too long, and a specific criticism that they vetoed a liberal proposal of the Home Secretary on penal reform or else threatened to retaliate if it became law. They were both completely unfounded.

The judges had been consulted on the proposal of dividing every sentence of three years or under into three parts — imprisonment, supervised release and probation. This placed the judges in a dilemma when passing a longish sentence in order to protect the public.

Was he to fail in his duty to the public in passing a sentence which would be divided into three or to fail his duty to Parliament in passing a sentence which would nullify the three thirds rule?

There must be some form of discretion in non-application by the trial judge or some parole consideration interposed between the passing of sentence and release of the prisoner.

Please do not blame the judges (he said). The fault lies in successive Governments who have failed to spend any money on prisons year after year after year. It is not the fault of the judges.

Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge (SDP) said Parliament should put a ceiling on the prison population and instruct the Home Office to make an automatic reduction of all sentences to end in the current year to bring the population down to the authorized figure.

Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said, the Government believed there was scope for prison population to continue to protect the public.

In the last six months of 1980, the average length of sentence imposed on males of 17 and over by magistrates was one or two weeks shorter than for the same period a year earlier and average sentences imposed by Crown Courts fell by two months for the equivalent period. Shorter sentences were not necessarily in all cases, but not necessarily in all.

An automatic reduction in prison lengths would impose a rigidity which was misguided in principle and might have counter-productive in practice.

Under the Criminal Justice Bill, the Government was under power to reduce the minimum qualifying period for parole by statutory instrument, subject to parliamentary approval.

The Government would not enter into any commitment to present to exercise the power, but would keep the question under review, so that if it was decided it was justified and practical to exercise the new power, it would enable them to do so without having to wait for another Bill to come before Parliament.

here at any time. It would take out 4,000 out of the prison population.

There were suggestions of amnesty for those who had been in prison — for drunkenness, prostitution, fine default or sleeping rough, and also for those wrongly convicted. He had yet to find anyone who had seen the Rough Justice film on television recently who did not agree that those three people serving years and still in prison were obviously innocent.

He had every sympathy with prisoners in these conditions, with prison officers who were pretty well reduced by the lack of any resources to turnkeys and with prison governors who, having to choose between denying prisoners their rights and having difficulties in finding anyone who had seen the Rough Justice film, chose not to have difficulties with the staff.

The only thing Home Secretary was short of was action and that was what was needed now. He alone could do it. The time for talking was gone — it was time to act.

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The debate concluded.

**Parliament today**  
Commons (2.30). Questions: Northern Ireland; Prime Minister. Debate on the Falkland Islands. Lord Advocate's Bill, report. Debate on EEC agricultural trade policy.

## Council spending out of line

### SCOTLAND

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, was accused of demeaning his high office by singling out two Scottish councils for reductions because of their overspending.

The exchanges began when Mr Younger announced that he was not satisfied with the proposed spending levels for 1982-83 by Scottish regional councils.

He said: Total expenditure by regional councils in 1979, or 73 per cent above the level assumed in the rate support grant settlement. The excess planned by Lothian Regional Council is £6.5m. In 1980, it was £6.5m. In 1981, it was £6.5m. In 1982, it was £6.5m. In 1983, it was £6.5m.

I have served similar notice on Stirling District Council of reduction in grant by £1.5m. He concluded: I am considering the spending levels planned by other local authorities in Scotland and will announce any further measures as soon as possible.

Mr Michael Ancram (Edinburgh, South, C) said the statement about Lothian would be welcomed by ratepayers everywhere. (Lab protest.) With his confirmation that, on a rough estimate based on £45m, that if that saving was returned to ratepayers, as it would be if a Tory administration is returned on May 6, it would come to an average of about £60 a household. It would underline that the Conservative Party does care about ratepayers.

Mr Younger: Once more, I have been almost snowed under with exactly the same allegations about ratepayers concerned about the practices of these areas.

It is difficult to speculate on exactly what will happen but it would appear that, taking the full £45m, the average household reduction would be about £60. The figure for an Edinburgh business would be about £300.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab): Mr Younger's statement is a scandalous abuse of his powers. It has far more to do with the crumbling support of the Tory party at next week's regional elections than anything else.

Far from there being a few authorities out of line, 56 out of 65 Scottish local authorities are in excess of his guidelines which demonstrate how unrealistic they are. Orkney is 79 per cent in excess; Shetland 79 per cent. So the singling out of Lothian and Stirling is another act of political spite and prejudice by him.

Mr Younger: He may wish to reflect more deeply. If he were in my position he could not ignore an authority planning to overspend by 22 per cent over the

I cannot suspend my statutory functions just because an election is in the offing. I have been under pressure to announce any changes as soon as possible because it makes it easier for councils to make savings.

Mr Millan: Seven authorities are over the guidelines by more than 20 per cent. Thirty are over by more than 10 per cent. There is no justification for singling out these two.

Mr Younger: He is wrong. We are not concerned with authorities over the guidelines (Labour interruptions) but with those planning to incur excessive and unreasonable expenditure. Is Mr Millan saying he would ignore one authority which contributed the third to the entire excess of Scottish authorities?

Mr Robin Cook (Edinburgh, Central, Lab): Will he take the same attitude to the two councils? He has made arbitrary use of his powers. And the cynical timing of his announcement today will bring contempt on himself and his party.

Mr Younger: He does not understand. We are concerned with the authority which incurs excessive and unreasonable spending. He implies that he warmly supports the high spending levels in Lothian regional. I hope his constituents will note that.

Crimes recorded by the police in the Strathclyde region increased by 24,859 to 223,685 in 1981, excluding motor vehicle and miscellaneous offences Mr Allan Stewart, Under Secretary of State for Scotland, said at question time.

Mr John Macton (Glasgow, Central, Lab): He had asked for the figures, asked: These alarming figures in Strathclyde show the measures being taken by the Government to deal with the fact of the deterioration in the unemployment situation in Scotland, particularly among the young people. (Labour cheers)

Mr Stewart: There is no simple correlation between unemployment and crime. The Conservative Party has been giving priority to measures to maintain law and order. Government policy is based upon creating permanent jobs in a healthy economy and this is increasingly succeeding.

There was no simple correlation between unemployment and crime in Scotland, Mr Allan Stewart, Under Secretary of State for Scotland, said.

He said that crime had been increasing over the last decade. The reasons for the increase were many, complex and hard to ascertain.

It is because we are concerned with the increase in crime that Government places such a high priority on maintaining law and order.

Mr James Hamilton (Bathford, Lab): There has been a serious deterioration in law and order, compared with the last Labour Government's record, since 1979. One of the main contributors to the deterioration is the unemployment situation in Scotland, particularly among the young people. (Labour cheers)

Mr Stewart: There is no simple correlation between unemployment and crime. The Conservative Party has been giving priority to measures to maintain law and order. Government policy is based upon creating permanent jobs in a healthy economy and this is increasingly succeeding.

There are some more and better equipped policemen in Scotland than ever before. Our measures to maintain law and order have been widely welcomed in Scotland.

Mr Michael Ancram (Edinburgh, South, C): said the Opposition's suggestion that there was a connection between crime and unemployment was a scandalous insult against those who, through no fault of their own, were out of work.

Should they not start looking at the real reason last night which is the lack of discipline at home and in the schools? (Conservative cheers and Labour protests)

Mr Bruce Millan, Opposition spokesman on Scotland (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab): Would the minister acknowledge that crime went down in 1979? It has gone up steadily since and went up by 12 per cent over 1980-81. It is asked for the minister to deny that there is some relationship between crime and unemployment since for housebreaking and related offences the majority of crime is committed by the 16-20 age group.

Why doesn't the Government acknowledge its responsibility when we have thousands of young people hanging about the streets

because of the economic policies of the Government?

Mr Stewart: I said there was no simple correlation and I stand by that. Throughout the period of the last Labour Government crime in Scotland rose and was rising sharply when they Government left office. Mr Millan should be cautious.

Mr Walker said later: The unemployment levels in Perth are far below the national average, yet crime there is increasing. The trendy practices which have been carried out in schools and in the standards of discipline and order. This has more to do with the level of crime than unemployment has.

There are certainly deep-seated problems affecting responsibility for law in our country. Where the Tayside police have exercised their power under Section 4 of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act to search for offensive weapons, out of 23 searches on 13 occasions they have found offensive weapons.

It is difficult to see in what circumstances unemployment leads to people carrying offensive weapons.

Mr Stewart: How many of those searches could not have been carried out under the Prevention of Crime Act?

Mr Fraser: The figure I have given is the number of occasions when a specific power was used under the Act. That has similarly been used sparingly elsewhere in Scotland. When it has been used on a regular basis, it has been on a regular basis.

There is a high number of occasions that people have been carrying offensive weapons.

**Bill to protect customers' payments**

Mr Robin Squire (Havering, Essex, C) was given leave to introduce the Customers' Prepayments (Protection) Bill to provide protection for advance payments.

He said there was an increasing number of people who found, subsequent to the dispatch of money, the firm concerned had gone into bankruptcy or liquidation, with the result that the customer received little or nothing.

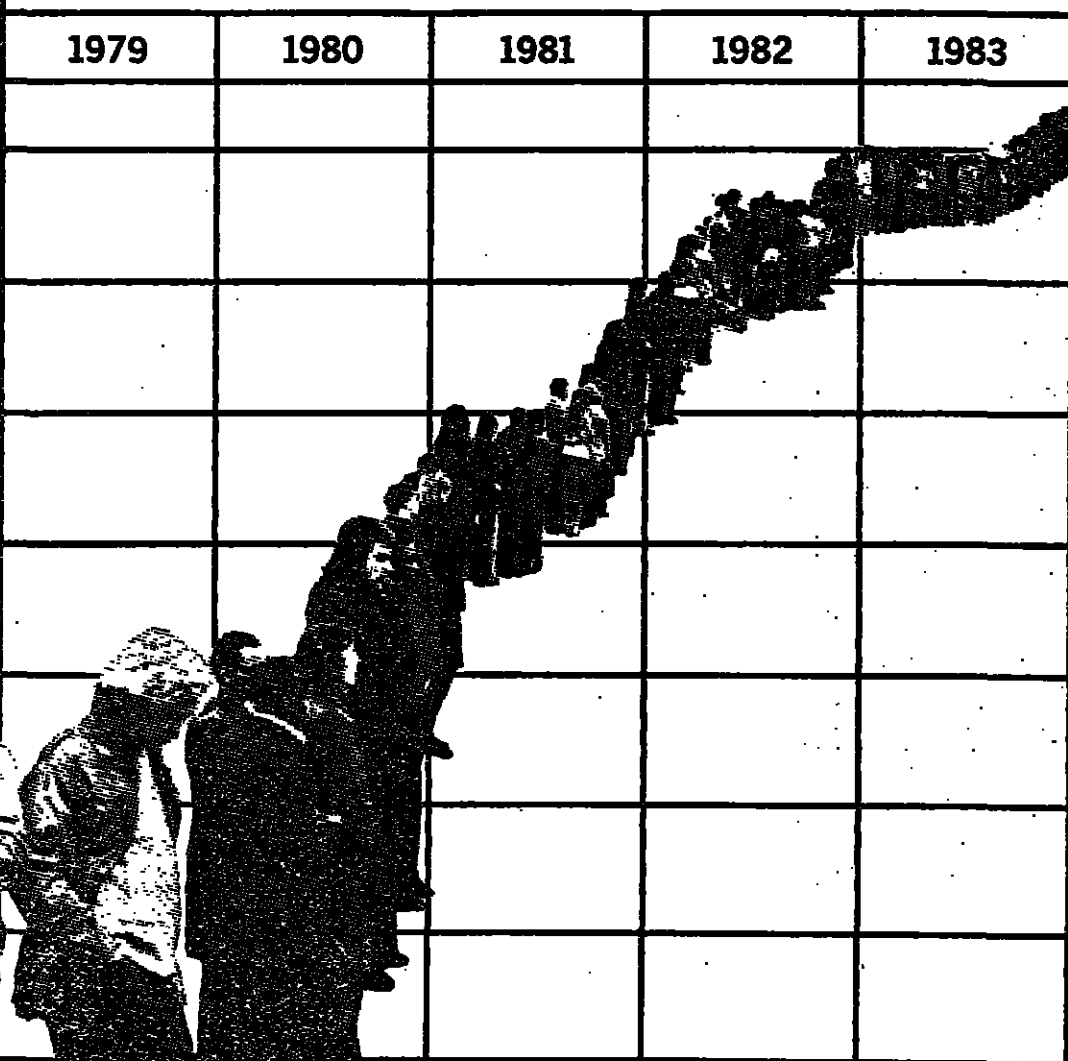
His Bill would provide that every prepayment, advance payment or deposit made by a consumer to a company should be placed in a separate account — the customer's prepayment account. That sum would be left in trust for the benefit of the customer and would not be available as capital, loan guarantee or other business purpose for the supplying company.

After the delivery of the goods or the supply of the service, the firm could withdraw from the customer's account the amount paid by the customer for that purpose. In the event of the firm's bankruptcy or liquidation, the sum held by the company would be repaid to him or her after the declaration of liquidation or bankruptcy.

No other solution would give the consumer a chance to complete effectively with the preferred creditors in any liquidation.

The Bill was read a first time.

## UNEMPLOYMENT



Source: Dept. of Employment

**This Sunday, it's business as usual. Except for 3 million of us.**

In a couple of days, the majority of the great British public will be out of work. Washing cars, mowing lawns, heading for the coast and generally making the best of the Bank Holiday weekend.

Come Tuesday morning, well over 3 million less fortunate souls will be in exactly the same situation. Busy doing nothing.

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This Sunday's Sunday Times starts the first in a series of the disease; examining every cure, palliative and placebo proposed to date.

It's been an enormous job, but we've heard very few complaints.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES



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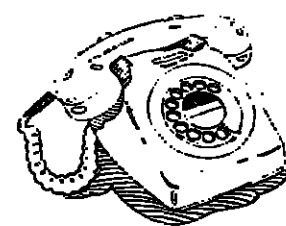
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## FALKLANDS CRISIS

## UN seen as last hope of saving Argentina's face

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York, April 28

The furor caused by the routine appeal for aid in the Falklands conflict, made by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, has left officials at the world organization vexed, but not intimidated by the heightened emotions inspired by the conflict.

British and United Nations officials are calling the episode, which has seen Britain forced to issue a statement implying that the Secretary-General was perhaps too fair and even-handed in his call for peace, a "tempest in a teapot".

The sequence of events shows that the British Government and the United Nations share the same objective, but not the same approach, and that the incident was coloured by mainly political considerations.

On Monday, after a day of agonizing over the proper response to give to the recapture of South Georgia, Señor Pérez de Cuellar issued a brief statement appealing to both Britain and Argentina to comply with Security Council Resolution 502.

He also said that the events in South Georgia served to illustrate the urgent need to halt the escalation of the conflict, a statement which could be interpreted as an attempt by the Secretary-General to limit Britain's military option.

Something that Argentina has been trying to do without much success.

The initial British response to the Pérez de Cuellar appeal indicated nothing amiss. A spokesman for the British



Señor Pérez de Cuellar. Took the point

mission said that the appeal was "impartial, neutral and an action to be expected from the Secretary-General". That evening Sir Anthony Parsons, the British representative at the United Nations, met with Señor Pérez de Cuellar, but British displeasure with the contents of the appeal was not yet publicly voiced.

It was only after a boisterous debate in the House of Commons with Labour MPs demanding that the Government respond to the appeal, that Britain felt compelled to issue publicly its reservation to the Secretary-General's statement.

Sir Anthony said, in a statement issued through his spokesman, that his Government could not accept the implication made by the Secretary-General that Britain had failed to comply with Resolution 502. He

ended the statement by observing that the Secretary-General had "taken my point". Which has led to speculation that Señor Pérez de Cuellar apologized for his insensitivity, a point which has been denied both by the United Nations and by British spokesmen.

Sources say that the Secretary-General had decided against berating Argentina and confirming Britain's right under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter to self-defence, in anticipation that the problem may again land in the United Nations lap and he may be called upon to offer services as peace-maker.

United Nations officials say that the Secretary-General has no magic formula that would quell the atmosphere of confrontation and settle the underlying issues of the dispute. He did believe, however, that the United Nations offered the best way for both Governments to save face, particularly for Argentina, which is felt to be more in need of a graceful way out of the situation.

Because of the belief that Argentina is in a more delicate situation than Britain, the United Nations could be debated, the Secretary-General has attempted to be as even-handed as possible. This emphasis on the need for fairness has been heightened by the expectation that the United States will shift in the direction of Britain. It is felt that the United Nations will then be the only resort left for Argentina if it is to seek a peaceful settlement.

## Benn quoted against Benn

## Subtle manoeuvres unite Labour front bench

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The ambivalence in the Labour Party's attitude to the Falklands crisis, especially with regard to the use of force, has been implicit from the moment the crisis enveloped the House of Commons. Shadow ministers, however, have seldom admitted its presence even to themselves.

A number of them were openly scornful of Mr Eric Heffer's early Shadow Cabinet interventions on the Falklands crisis. The point he made was that, while not opposed to the task force, he was opposed to its use to recapture the islands.

One of Mr Heffer's senior colleagues later derided such dissent as naive, innocent and laughable. But Mr Michael Foot's speech to the Commons, in the recess debate on April 14, dispelled speculation that Mr Heffer was deliberately isolating himself from the Labour front bench.

In spite of the widespread view that the Labour leader's speech showed remarkable support for the Government,

the seeds of opposition were undoubtedly sown. Mr Foot said then, for example: "We must go on and on, again and again, seeking a peaceful method of settling this dispute. When Mr Foot sat down, Mr Heffer grinned at the press gallery above the chamber."

Mr Foot has effectively bounced the Shadow Cabinet behind his own view — then tacit, now almost explicit — that while it was correct to send the task force to bolster negotiation, he would not favour its use in an outright conflict.

The difference between that position and the early statements that there could be no "blank cheque" for the use of force is one of degree. No one would have expected a blank cheque for extreme military action but the use of limited force to force further diplomatic concessions from Argentina would not fall within the terms of a blank cheque.

Yesterday's National Executive Committee resolution

was significantly, sponsored by Mr Foot, and Mr Denis Healey. It said: "In view of the further armed exchange between Argentine and British forces which has taken place over South Georgia island, it is imperative that the escalation of the situation be halted."

Meanwhile, it had gone largely unnoticed that Mr Foot was not the only one trying to bounce his colleagues. Dame Judith Hart, chairman of the Labour Party and of its national executive committee last week told the Parliamentary Labour Party meeting that party policy was set out in a Commons motion which demanded an immediate cessation of hostilities.

But in an intervention which delighted many Labour MPs, the indefatigable Mr Jeffrey Rooker, MP for Birmingham, Perry Barr, pointed out to Dame Judith that party policy, as stated in the 1980 draft manifesto, and a socialist foreign policy paper, published last Sep-

tember, went much further than this. Mr Rooker said that the draft manifesto (later rejected by the party conference) stated: "We uphold the rights of all peoples and nations to self-determination... We reaffirm our commitment that under no circumstances will the inhabitants of the Falkland Islands be handed over to any Argentinian (sic) regime which violates human and civil rights."

The same sentiment was expressed in the discussion paper which added: "Meanwhile, the rights of the Falkland Islanders to self-determination must be upheld."

Mr Rooker was also one of the sponsors of this week's Commons motion which, with irony, quoted the words of Mr Wedgwood Benn last month, in a lecture of Marxism, when he said: "There is clearly an inherent right to take up arms against tyranny or dictatorship, to establish or uphold democracy, on exactly the same

basis, and for the same reasons, that the nation will respond to a call to arms to defeat a foreign invasion, or repel those who have successfully occupied a part of our territory."

The MP commented: "We are giving Tony the same kind of support he gives to Michael."

The developing collapse of bipartisan support yesterday was accentuated when trade union leaders urged Mrs Thatcher not to engage in further military action (Paul Routledge writes).

In a move that clearly presages a shift of opinion among organized labour and the parliamentary left, the TUC General Council warned of "the dangers of a widening bloody conflict, involving the armed forces and the people of the Falklands".

In a letter to Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, formed common political cause with the Shadow Cabinet in asking for United Nations mediation

## Build-up of supplies on islands

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires, April 28

Journalists returning today to Buenos Aires, on military orders, from the crucial southern port of Comodoro Rivadavia, told of a constant day and night airlift of provisions and munitions to the Falklands, in a convoy of Hercules C130 transport aircraft, and at least one converted airliner.

In the event of a blockade the survival of the supply route will be crucial.

As the savage South Atlantic winter draws in, 9,000 young Argentine soldiers are tonight huddled two to a tent in the harsh, bleak countryside of the Falklands. Already the first snow flurries have fallen, and a biting wind blows across the almost treeless terrain.

Argentine state radio and television today repeated appeals to people to knit sweaters and make socks for the troops, an appeal that suggests they are ill-equipped to cope with the unfamiliar, bitter and rapidly worsening conditions.

The only water-filtration plant on the Falklands is in the hills above Port Stanley.



Sitting it out: Argentine soldiers sheltering in a dugout from the Falkland gales. Most of the occupying forces are young, inexperienced conscripts.

## No mincing of words by Hurd

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg, April 28

There must be no doubt that Britain has the will and ability to stand by its commitments and to use "minimal force if necessary" to protect its rights, Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told the Council of Europe in Strasbourg today.

Reporting to the Council on the Falklands issue, Mr Hurd made it quite clear that while Britain was prepared to negotiate, it rejected any idea that it had started hostilities "since Argentina did that some weeks ago".

The recapture of South Georgia "was intended to show beyond any doubt that Britain cannot meekly acquiesce in the seizure of British territory and the colonization, for that is the accurate work, of British subjects", he said. "We feel this should reassure rather than alarm our friends in Europe."

Mr Hurd did not mince his words. The Argentine takeover of the Falklands was, he said, an invasion of a peaceable and democratic people by a powerful neighbour whose Government is characterized by its contempt for democratic institutions and human rights. All the indications were that Argentina intended to incorporate the Falkland Islands as its integral part without any pretence at consensus or persuasion.

Mr Hurd went out of his way to try to emphasize that Britain was not the aggressor. "History will bear this out when the records are published", he said. The tireless and courageous efforts of Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, were continuing. But Britain was determined to show that it was ready to assert its rights.

There was a great deal of space for negotiations, he went on, but there could not be any negotiations with Britain while Argentine troops were still in the Falklands. Once they left, it would be possible to discuss a wide range of things.

Tomorrow, the Council is due to debate a recommendation from its political affairs committee expressing solidarity with Britain's declared aim of achieving a peaceful and fair solution and offering sympathy to the islanders.

## An astonished civil servant at the helm

From John Witherow, with the task force in the South Atlantic, April 28

Rear-Admiral John "Sandy" Woodward, the commander of the task force, said today that he did not view himself as "the hawk-eyed, sharp-nosed hard military man, leading a battle fleet into the annals of history".

The admiral, who earlier this week spoke of the South Georgia operation as the appetiser for the heavy punch of the Falklands, was more reserved when he briefed the task force press corps aboard Hermes today. His earlier remarks had provoked some criticism from a small number of MPs.

"I am very astonished to find myself in this position. I am an ordinary person who lives in South West London, in suburbia", Rear-Admiral Woodward said.

"I have been a virtual civil servant for the past three years, commuting into London every day."

The task force could force a long and bloody campaign, he added. "I become very emotional talking about it. It would be with great reluctance that I would put anybody in the front line unless I am prepared to go there myself. I view every person, and every ship, every aircraft and every submarine, — because I know so many of them — as individuals."

He said that there was no simple, short, quick military solution to re-establishing British administration on the Falklands while the Argentines resisted. "If it is a matter of shooting as well it will be a long haul. It's one we can do. But it's one we would rather not do for all the good reasons that nobody wants a long and bloody campaign. I am not in any doubt that unless people say

'let's stop' it will be a long and bloody campaign, and in my mind it's absolutely fundamental to try to avoid it."

He did not think it was easy for the Argentines. They had a lot of old equipment. He did not see the air force, naval ships or submarines posing a very real threat.

"Our task force is actually a pretty powerful one. And it must be a pretty daunting prospect to any of the Argentines. I think that the greatest danger is if they can manage to put all of their forces together, and that is terribly difficult to do."

Rear-Admiral Woodward said he was conscious of being responsible for the task force and its 15,000 officers and men. "We are getting extremely close to the front line and this is a dangerous time. There has to be a political wish to go on negotiating and that will entail our waiting in a ready posture, as ready as we can be."

He hoped to be allowed to restrain the Argentines from further reinforcing the islands, "because that would be military sense whether it is politically feasible or not. So long as I keep people back home well informed of the military situation I can expect them to arrive at the right, overall answer, even if it might not represent my own personal ideas."

He said that he would be very depressed if he did not think that there was still time for a diplomatic settlement.

Newspaper reports in Britain that he had been given orders allowing landings anywhere on the Falklands except Port Stanley were "patently untrue", the admiral said.

## Weather reports cleared

By Our Foreign Staff

Weather conditions in the South Atlantic have been declassified, apparently after The Times report that the Meteorological Office headquarters at Bracknell, which comes under the Ministry of Defence, had been instructed not to disclose any information about conditions around the Falklands.

The ministry yesterday denied that it had given any such instructions. A call to the Meteorological Office produced a satellite reading at 1 pm BST yesterday, which showed a broad band of thick cloud over the Falkland area, suggesting the weather man said, rain, temperatures slightly above freezing, and fresh to moderate north-westerly winds.

The same office had said on Tuesday that the disclosure of such information would be "a breach of security".

## Task force ship owned by Chile

By Our Foreign Staff

The Tidepool, a 14,000-ton Royal Fleet Auxiliary tanker sold to Chile, is now helping the British task force. The Defence Ministry confirmed that the ship was being delivered to Chile and was at sea when the Chileans agreed that it could be used to help to refuel the task force.

It is being manned by Royal Navy personnel and a defence Ministry spokesman said: "Delivery has been delayed. He had no knowledge of any Chileans being on board." He also refused to comment on whether RAF aircraft were using Chilean air bases.

Tidepool was part of a £65m package deal with Chile which included the County class light cruiser Norfolk.

Four requisitioned Hull trawlers pressed into service by the Royal Navy as minesweepers, have left Portland for the Falklands. The Northerella, Farnella, Junella and Cordella were fitted with minesweeping gear at Rosyth.

Meanwhile, the British Telecom cable ship Iris, which has been requisitioned by the Ministry of Defence, was having its helicopter deck strengthened in Devonport dockyard before sailing for the South Atlantic.

## Navy denial in film dispute

By Our Foreign Staff

The Royal Navy denied yesterday that it had asked ACTT, the film technicians' union, which is in dispute with the Central Office of Information, to lift its blacking-out of film shot by Navy photographers with the Falklands task force (Kenneth Gossling writes).

Radio Rivadavia, the largest radio station in Buenos Aires, telephoned the BBC in London yesterday with questions about the crisis. It carried out an interview with Mr Domingo Valenzuela, programme organizer of the Latin American Service, for broadcast later in the day in a current affairs programme.

## Confrontation on roller skates

By Our Foreign Staff

Teams from Britain and Argentina are scheduled for confrontation on the opening of the world rink hockey championships in Lisbon on Saturday.

Argentina holds the world title in this rough-and-tumble sport, similar to ice hockey but played on roller skates and popular especially in Argentina and Chile.

## OAS chooses moderation

## Costa Méndez plea rejected

From Nicholas Ashford and Mohsin Ali, Washington, April 28

Foreign ministers of the Organization of American States (OAS) voted 17-0 with four abstentions early this morning in favour of a moderately-worded resolution, which was seen as a diplomatic setback for Argentina.

Although the resolution called for Britain to cease hostilities over the Falklands dispute, it did not contain any reference to the demand made by Señor Nicanor Costa Méndez, the Argentine Foreign Minister, at the opening of the OAS meeting on Monday, for the withdrawal of the British fleet from the South Atlantic.

Britain and Argentina were urged to declare an immediate truce. The resolution called for further peace negotiations and — as a Argentina — urged European countries to lift economic and political sanctions imposed on Argentina.

The preamble also stated that Security Council resolution 502 "must be fulfilled". This calls for an Argentine withdrawal from the islands, a lessening of hostilities, and a solution by diplomatic means.

The four countries which abstained were the United States, Trinidad and Tobago, Chile and Colombia. Colombia had submitted its own draft, which simply called for the provisions of resolution 502 to be met.

Those in favour of the OAS resolution were: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecua-

dor, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The final wording was an amended version to a draft submitted yesterday by Peru and Brazil, and supported by Costa Rica and Honduras. It took the foreign ministers 10 hours of debate behind closed doors, during which Señor Costa Méndez tried to win support for a tougher for of words before agreement was reached.

One of the main modifications was the deletion from the earlier draft of an expression of "profound regret" to Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, for his attempts to find a peaceful solution. The agreed resolution merely took note of the information received about Mr Haig's negotiations.

Several countries, notably Venezuela, were annoyed at the speech given by Mr Haig on Monday in which he blamed Argentina for being the first to use force, and said that the dispute should not be treated within the collective security framework of the 1947 Rio Treaty.

Mr Haig's speech was given a frosty reception but, as one observer noted: "The Argentine Foreign Minister got a standing ovation, but little of real substance. Mr Haig was received with stony silence; but got what he wanted."

British diplomats said they regarded the OAS resolution

as "neutral". They said the organization could have had a damaging effect if it had voted for sanctions against Britain, had not referred to Resolution 502, or had given full-blooded support to Argentina.

British officials were disappointed, however, that the resolution recognized Argentina's claim to sovereignty over the islands, and referred only to the "interests of the islanders", without making any reference to "self-determination".

OAS delegates said they thought Britain had got off lightly, despite numerous condemnations of British actions. The main reason for this, they explained, was the feeling among several countries that Argentina had placed itself in the wrong by using force.

Sources said that Argentina was shocked at a low level of support it received from the meeting.

[New York: Guyana is clearly apprehensive over the possibility of an imminent Venezuelan attack on its territory and has informed officials at the United Nations about its fears (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

Mr Norberto Sinclair, Representative from Guyana, yesterday met Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the Secretary-General, and Mr Kamanda wa Kamanda of the Security Council. It did not seem likely, however, that Guyana would press for a council meeting at present.

## Text approves sovereignty claim

Washington, April 28. — The following is the text of the nine-page resolution approved here last night by a special meeting of the Organization of American States on the Falkland crisis.

The twentieth meeting of consultation of foreign ministers resolves:

1. To urge the Government of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to cease immediately the hostilities it is carrying on within the security region established by Article 4 of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocity Assistance and to refrain from any act that could affect inter-American peace and security.

2. To urge the Government of the Republic of Argentina as well as the European Community and other states of coercive measures of an economic and political nature which are prejudicial to the peaceful union used to urge those countries to lift those measures, since they constitute a serious precedent inasmuch as they are not covered by Resolution 502 of the United Nations

bearing in mind the rights of sovereignty of the Republic of Argentina over the Falklands and the interests of the islanders.

4. To express the willingness of the twentieth meeting of consultation to lead support through whatever means it considers advisable, to the new initiatives being advanced at the regional or world level, with the consent of the parties, which are directed toward a just and peaceful solution of the problem.

5. To take note of the information received about the important negotiations by the Secretary of State of the United States and to express its wishes that they will be an effective contribution to the peaceful settlement of the conflict.

6. To deplore the adoption by members of the European Community and other states of coercive measures of an economic and political nature which are prejudicial to the peaceful union used to urge those countries to lift those measures, since they constitute a serious precedent inasmuch as they are not covered by Resolution 502 of the United Nations

Security Council and are inconsistent with the charters of the United Nations and of the OAS and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

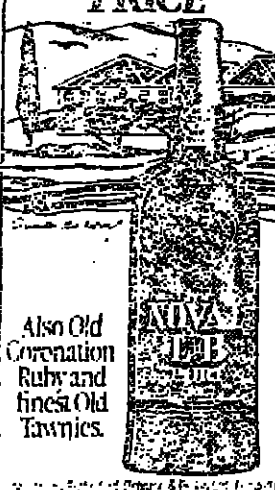
7. To instruct the chairman of the twentieth meeting of consultation to take immediate steps to transmit the contents of operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this resolution to the Government of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of the Republic of Argentina, and to inform them, on behalf of the foreign ministers of this hemisphere, that he is fully confident that this exhortation will be received for the sake of peace in the region and the world.

8. To instruct the chairman of the twentieth meeting of consultation to present this resolution formally to the chairman of the United Nations Security Council.

9. To keep the twentieth meeting of consultation open, especially to oversee further compliance with this resolution and to take such additional measures as are deemed necessary to restore and preserve peace and settle the conflict by peaceful means.

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## John and Anne Peatfield: Refused Argentine order to reopen schools

secondary, were close to a military camp and therefore a possible target.

When it became clear they would not change their minds, the Peatfields say, the academic year was formally suspended. Both schools are now being used to house troops and guard dogs.

Meanwhile, the teachers began holding voluntary classes in their own homes for the handful of children that remained in Port Stanley. They were given homework to do, and introduced

to a microcomputer borrowed earlier from the Royal Navy survey ship Endeavour.

The Peatfields were aware of reports that the Argentines planned to replace English history and geography with Argentine, and to introduce Spanish teaching. But they say that this was never mentioned to them.

Nor was anything said about the education of future Argentine immigrants to the islands. In fact, the Falklands schools have traditionally taught two or three Argentine children a year.

## Island teachers defy invaders

By Philip Venning of "The Times Educational Supplement"

Teachers of the Falkland Islands were the only group of public employees to defy the Argentine military government after the invasion according to the headmaster of the Port Stanley junior school.

Mr John Peatfield, who left the islands last week, says that the teachers refused an order to reopen the schools, declined to accept Argentine salaries, and taught pupils voluntarily in their own homes as a protest.

In an exclusive interview in tomorrow's issue of The Times Educational Supplement, Mr Peatfield and his wife, Anne, who was also a teacher at the school, reveal that immediately after the invasion Captain Barry Hussey, an Argentine naval officer, was put in charge of the islands' education system. He asked them to reopen the schools at once, and cooperate with the Argentine authorities until a new Argentine curriculum could be introduced.

After a meeting the teachers unanimously agreed not to collaborate, in spite of a warning to take over their jobs if necessary.

The Peatfields say that they did not wish to give the Argentines any opportunity for propaganda. In addition, a majority of children had left Port Stanley, because the two schools, a primary and a



John and Anne Peatfield: Refused Argentine order to reopen schools



## Polish steelmen learn to live with martial law

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, April 28

Welcome to the militarized world of the Huta-Warszawa steelworks where workers work, discipline is maintained and absenteeism is little more than a distant memory.

The Huta is a sprawling plant on the outskirts of Warsaw, the unpleasant part where nobody wants to live, and it has had its problems in the past. A Solidarity stronghold, a patchy strike record, a "spot of bother" as the technical director put it, after the declaration of martial law. Now production is roughly on a par with the average for the past five years (a million tonnes of high quality steel a year), productivity has increased by 3.7 per cent, the plant is working at 100 per cent capacity and the order books are full.

How has the plant managed to restore the work motivation of the workers, persuaded them to work overtime and the unpopular "four-day" shift (four days on, one day off, four nights on, one day off)? Does military rule produce economic miracles?

One could have asked the military commissar, a colonel, but he had unfortunately just left the office, nobody knew for how long or where. One could have asked the workers, but unfortunately it was not possible to speak to workers in militarized factories without prior notification.

In fact, military control of factories works like this. The colonel has an office next to the manager and has free access to all files. Because he has no expertise in steel making he makes few decisions but sits in on the weekly board meeting making notes in the corner. He complains about the lack of cleanliness in the factory, the sloppy turnout of the workers, the need for punctuality.

The colonel's three assistants — lieutenant-colonels — have the freedom to roam the plant looking for instances of waste or backsliding, but they rarely visit the shop-floors where uniforms are unpopular. In short, they are a controlling operation to reassure the workers that the management is on its toes and at the same time a symbol of discipline.

Being a militarized factory means that military regulations apply to the workforce. The management can and does order workers to work overtime, can reorganize shifts without consultation.

Under the military regulations, so adequately represented by the roving lieutenant colonels, absence from the workplace ranks as desertion and can thus be punished accordingly (that is, with a jail term or a hefty fine). The technical director says: "We have largely solved the absenteeism problem".

Not all industries of course

## Pope puts off trip to Poland Glemp says

Vatican City, April 28 — The Pope's planned trip to his native Poland in August will be postponed, Archbishop Jozef Glemp, Poland's Roman Catholic Primate, said today.

"I believe that the Pope's trip must be postponed for a little while," he told reporters at St Peter's Square after the Pontiff's weekly audience.

Asked if the trip would take place next year, the archbishop replied: "No, unless the situation (in Poland) calms down".

Vatican sources have said the Pope would not want to give any impression that he accepted the restrictions of martial law by visiting the country while the emergency measure was in force.

Asked whether it was the Pope who decided to put off the trip, Archbishop Glemp said: "This depends not only on us, but also the (Polish) Government and the situation".

The Pope's visit to Poland in 1979 helped set off a nationwide outpouring of nationalist and religious fervour.

He wanted to return to his country in August for the six-hundredth anniversary of the Black Madonna shrine at Czestochowa.

A Polish Government official said today the authorities had no objections to the Pope's planned visit. He refused to comment further. — AP.

## Americans lining up for Start Rostow after missile loopholes

By Richard Owen

The Reagan Administration is putting the finishing touches to its position on strategic arms reduction (START), and is intent on avoiding "the errors of previous negotiations", according to Mr Eugene Rostow, Director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA).

Mr Rostow told *The Times* that proposals from the Pentagon, the State Department and ACDA would be put before President Reagan this week. It is understood that Mr Reagan will discuss the final shape of the American position with the Nato allies during May, and will make a formal announcement about START by the time of the Versailles summit in June and the United Nations session on disarmament in New York the same month.

The main disagreement within the Administration has until now been over the "unit of account" to be used in the START talks, with some officials favouring methods of calculation involving numbers of missile warheads, and others arguing for "throw weight", or destructive power. The position now being formulated is thought to be a compromise involving both methods.

Previous strategic arms talks had mistakenly placed the emphasis on numbers of missile launchers, which had allowed the Soviet Union to build up an advantage in intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs). SALT I, signed in 1972 by Mr Nixon and Mr Brezhnev, established only an interim freeze on ICBMs, and lapsed in 1977.



Rostow: In-fighting

SALT II was not ratified by the Senate, but is observed *de facto*.

Mr Rostow argues however that the Soviet Union has been able to exploit loopholes in SALT I and SALT II — including the provision in SALT II for the "modernization and replacement" of nuclear missiles — and has thus gained the edge. Soviet commanders, he suggests, will soon be in a position to "take out our ICBMs with only 25 per cent of theirs".

The resulting loss of nuclear parity has led to doubts in Western Europe about the credibility of the American nuclear guarantee, a development which Mr Rostow describes as "the most dramatic demonstration of the political meaning of nuclear weapons since Cuba in 1962".

The American approach is therefore based on arms reduction rather than limitation — hence the acronym START, replacing SALT —

with the proviso that if the Russians prove unwilling to reduce their arsenal, the Americans will no option but to increase theirs. Mr Rostow remains "quite optimistic" about the prospects, "provided the Soviet Union itself wishes to reach an agreement based on the principle of deterrence". It was not true, he said, that the Administration had dragged its feet over arms control, and was only now responding to public pressure for a nuclear "freeze". The delay had been due to "normal bureaucratic in-fighting", which was now nearing an end, and to the crisis in Poland, which had made it "inappropriate" for Mr Reagan to make an initiative.

Mr Rostow, who is nearly 70, and a former professor of law at Yale, is clearly looking forward to negotiating with known figures on the Soviet side. He has a manner at once patrician and sprightly, and talks in terms of the Russians and Americans both "holding their first teams". The American team includes General Ed Rowley, who will head the START delegation, and Mr Paul Nitze, delegate to the separate intermediate to the nuclear talks (INF) in Geneva, which resume next month. Neither START nor INF, according to Mr Rostow, are likely to be interrupted or held up by possible leadership changes on the Soviet side. Veteran arms negotiators on both sides, he believes, have established a relationship which will enable them to maintain a dialogue, regardless of political manoeuvring in the Kremlin.

## Salvador Assembly approves reforms

San Salvador, April 28 — The rightist-dominated Constituent Assembly has ratified reforms made by the junta, but has solved further changes that would have hurt the middle classes. It has also called for changes to "perfect" the achievements of the previous administration.

The Assembly has adopted a resolution legalizing the actions taken before the March 28 elections under the land redistribution programme and the nationalization of banks and foreign trade. The key reforms sponsored by President Jose Napoleon Duarte to deny public support for the country's guerrillas.

This has apparently shelved the long-delayed second phase of the land reform programme, which would have turned middle-sized estates into peasant cooperatives.

The first phase of the programme hit El Salvador's tiny oligarchy of wealthy landed families by nationalizing holdings of more than 1,250 acres. President Duarte and his centrist Christian

Democratic Party argued that the peasants' belief in the land reform programme would be undermined if it was not extended.

The conservative parties have condemned the land reform and the nationalization of banking and foreign trade during the election campaign. But key members of the United States Congress made continuation of the reforms a condition for continued American aid in the war against the leftist guerrillas.

Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, the assembly's ultra-rightist president, and the other rightist officials of the legislative body have cancelled a session scheduled for this afternoon to debate the selection of a provisional president to succeed Senator Duarte.

The rightists had previously taken steps to trim the presidential powers as insurance in case the opposition of military leaders and the United States caused more moderate right wingers to help to elect Señor Magana. — AP

## Berlin rioters out again

Berlin, April 28 — About 200 youths swarmed through Kreuzberg district in the American sector for a second successive night of rioting and looting that left eight police officers injured, 24 rioters arrested, and caused thousands of pounds' worth of damage.

Police said the trouble started late last night when

about 3,000 people demonstrated against Monday's eviction of squatters from a house in the district. The demonstration was largely peaceful, but afterwards several small groups gathered to fight scattered battles with police, loot stores, overturn police and private vehicles and start at least half a dozen fires. — AP

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## Bush makes pledge to Taiwan

From David Watts, Singapore, April 28

Mr George Bush, the United States Vice-President, who is to make an unexpected visit to China next month, has obliquely reassured Taiwan that it has nothing to fear from the visit.

Mr Bush told a breakfast meeting of American businessmen on the second day of his visit to Singapore: "The United States will remain faithful to its treaty commitments." His reiteration of the United States position does not augur well for the forthcoming Peking visit at a time when Sino-American relations are at their lowest point since normalization under President Carter in 1979.

China is incensed at American plans to sell \$60m (£33m) worth of military spare parts to Taiwan under a defence commitment. The United States has already declined to supply Taiwan with advanced jet fighter aircraft saying that its defence needs could be met by the present generation of Freedom Fighters which the Air Force operates.

Though Mr Bush's visit is unlikely to produce any important change in attitude by either side, it may ease off what the Americans fear could be a downgrading of Sino-American relations if Mr Bush can convince the Chinese that the sale of spare parts is the minimum the United States can do.

## Family seek help to quit Russia

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, April 28

Six Soviet Pentecostals rushed past guards outside the British Embassy last night and urged British diplomats to help them to leave the country. After being escorted out of the embassy, they were arrested.

The six — two men, two women and two children — said they were members of the Balak family and came from Krasnodar in southern Russia. They wanted to emigrate to Britain because they were harassed in the Soviet Union.

They had several times been refused Soviet exit visas and wanted the embassy to intercede on their behalf. They were told that while an application to go to Britain would be considered, British diplomats could not intervene until the family had first obtained exit permits.

The family left one hour later at about 10.00 pm, and were surrounded by 20 KGB security police who bundled them into waiting cars.

Six Pentecostals from Siberia have been in the United States Embassy since June 1978. A seventh, Miss Lydia Vashchenko, went on hunger strike in January to press their demands to emigrate but after being taken to a hospital returned to her native town of Chernogorsk. Yesterday one of her sisters said Miss Vashchenko and 11 brothers and sisters had been beaten.

## 500 Cubans leave Angola

From a Special Correspondent, Luanda, April 28

A first group of nearly 500 Cuban advisers have left Angola in recent weeks, according to diplomatic sources here. About 400 of them were working for the Angolan Ministry of construction, which had no further use for them.

The move, disclosed by the Cuban Ambassador in Luanda to a Third World diplomat, was prompted by the Angolan Government's inability to find useful work for them and not for any political

reason. The estimated 25,000 Cuban troops and civilian advisers still in Angola are paid in scarce Angolan dollars from Angolan oil earnings.

Many of the 6,500 civilian advisers are reported to be less useful than they were to the Angolan authorities as more Angolans gain experience in running the country.

It is not immediately clear whether other groups of Cubans will also return to Havana in the coming weeks.



# Peace protest as Israel violence mars celebration

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, April 28

The thirty-fourth anniversary of Israel's independence was marked today by a further severe outbreak of violence in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in which at least 12 Palestinians were wounded by bullets fired by Israeli soldiers to quell disturbances.

Five soldiers were also wounded in stone-throwing incidents, the raising of Palestinian flags and the setting up of blazing barricades. The violence was part of a new cycle of events which broke out on Sunday with the final handback of the Sinai to Egypt.

Tensions had also been exacerbated by yesterday's announcement by Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, that a government resolution would be put before the Knesset (parliament) next week to rule out the removal of any Jewish settlements as part of any future peace negotiations with the Arabs.

Today around 800 Jewish members of the left wing Peace Now Movement attempted to demonstrate near the occupied West Bank town of Hebron where Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, was speaking at one of the eight new paramilitary outposts inaugurated in the occupied territories as part of the Independence Day celebrations.

The demonstrators, who arrived in a long cavalcade of cars and coaches, were harried by an army roadblock four miles from the ceremony. There they sang Israeli peace songs and raised banners with Hebrew slogans such as: "Peace is better than Greater Israel" and

"Settlement destroys the way to peace".

Several demonstrators managed to penetrate the military cordon and carry their protest to the site of Nahal Telem, the new outpost which was being formally opened by Mr Sharon, the Cabinet's chief architect of settlement expansion in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

One of the Peace Now leaders, Mr Avraham Goldblum, a university science lecturer, said: "There are many Israelis who are now frightened that the Government's settlement policies are leading us straight to a new war. We particularly object to Independence Day being used to promote a policy with which a substantial section of the country does not agree."

Today's demonstration represented something of a revival for the Peace Now movement which has not countered Government building in the West Bank for many months.

The worst outbreak of Arab-Israeli violence was in Nablus where large parts of the town were placed under curfew after clashes in which at least eight people were shot. One of the injured was named locally as Mrs Wisal el-Masri, a pregnant woman teacher, whose condition was described as satisfactory after she had been hit in the arm by a bullet.

An Israeli military spokesman said that in the Gaza Strip four Palestinians were hit when soldiers opened fire to disperse demonstrators in the Jebel Safi refugee camp. He said the four soldiers had also been wounded by stones thrown inside the camp. A fifth soldier was hurt during rioting in Hebron.

## Syria wonders which way Jordan is going

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, April 28

King Hussein's letter of congratulation to President Mubarak on Egypt's recovery of the remainder of Sinai has raised fears in Syria that Jordan may soon join American-sponsored peace efforts in the Middle East. The king's message prompted leading articles in Damascus newspapers, all of which described Jordan as a "reactionary" regime.

At Beirut, the ruling party's newspaper in Syria, claimed that King Hussein's enthusiasm, as well as that expressed by King Hassan of Morocco in a similar letter to the Egyptian leader, "meant that they have joined the Camp David accords". The Jordanians themselves are of course, placing a quite different interpretation upon their king's message to Cairo.

So far as they are concerned, Jordan is merely welcoming Egypt back into the ranks of those Arab states who feel no diplomatic obligations towards Israel, in the hope that Egypt will now be able to throw her weight behind international Arab efforts to secure a homeland for the Palestinians.

In a speech to the National Consultative Council in Amman, the nearest equivalent to a Jordanian Parliament, King Hussein said: "One of our dearest aspirations is to see the Arab nation, including Egypt, resume its march in unison, so that all Arab territories, first and foremost Jerusalem, will return to the Arabs."

For their part, the Egyptian Government have been

somewhat irritated by Arab efforts to capitalize on the return of Sinai. The Saudis, for instance, having permitted indeed, sometimes encouraged, their neighbours to vilify Egypt for signing the Camp David agreement, are now claiming that the Israeli withdrawal was a result of the "pan-Arab" struggle. This is regarded in Cairo, with considerable justification, as palpable nonsense.

Thus when he replied to King Hussein's message, President Mubarak promised that his country would carry on the "peace process" with Israel and asked Jordan to "join" Egypt in its defence of Palestinian rights. Hence Syria's suspicion that King Hussein may throw in his lot with the Egyptians.

Meanwhile, in Damascus today, the Syrian Government gave a warning that they would use their Sam 6 anti-aircraft missiles in Lebanon if Israel decided to attack the Palestinians again. A statement attributed to an anonymous Government spokesman claimed: "Syrian missiles will hit every Israeli aircraft that flies within their range. This is a firm stand from which Syria will never renege."

The Lebanese were today more involved in the protest strikes that followed the murder of Shaikh Ahmed Assaf, a leading Sunni Muslim cleric. For the first time since the civil war here, Christians and Muslims joined in a general strike in Beirut.

## Hurd says EEC must revive Mid-East role

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg, April 28

Europe must not stand aside in the search for a solution in the Middle East, Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told the Council of Europe assembly here today.

He gave a further clear hint that the EEC was on the point of a new Middle East initiative in his speech to the council in his role as president of its Committee of Ministers.

"Fresh ideas are now needed if fresh progress is to be made", he said. "Indeed, without fresh ideas what has already been achieved may be at risk."

He said that only patient negotiation between Israel and the Arab world could produce a settlement, but Europe should be "alert and imaginative in helping our friends in the area, and indeed our friends in the United States, the task of bringing about a just and lasting settlement."

## Begin remains firm against Palestine state

Jerusalem, April 28. — Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, today reaffirmed Israel's opposition to self-determination for Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Autonomy yes, self-determination no", he said in an Israeli radio interview. "Israel will continue to oppose the creation of a Palestinian state and the granting of self-determination to the Arabs of Judea Samaria (West Bank) and the Gaza, since (self-determination) can only lead to the destruction of the state of Israel."

He said the legitimate right of Palestinians "will be satisfied with the autonomy formula provided in the Camp David agreement". Israel, Egypt and the United States (the three signatories to the Camp David pact) should reach an agreement based solely on the formula, Mr Begin believed.

He had renewed his invitation to Egypt's President Mubarak to visit Jerusalem. "It seems to me that President Mubarak answered my invitation in the affirmative but I cannot be categorical since there was static on the line", Mr Begin said. — AFP.

□ Cairo: Egypt has decided to give the name Sadat to the former Israeli town of Yamit in Sinai, after the late Egyptian President (Reuters reports)

## Capitol Hill showdown on Reagan budget

From Bailey Morris, Washington, April 28

President Reagan went to Capitol Hill today for a dramatic showdown over his stalled, 1983 budget with Mr Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, the Democratic leader of the House of Representatives.

They agreed to meet after the collapse late yesterday of a month-long series of bipartisan negotiations in which Democratic and Republican leaders attempted to work out their differences and agree on a compromise budget.

The negotiators emerged after a three-hour session at the White House yesterday, with the message that the talks were hopelessly deadlocked with both sides far apart on the key issues of military spending, tax cuts and social security benefits for the elderly.

It was at this point the Mr James Baker, the White House chief of staff, surprised participants by announcing that Mr Reagan intended to dramatize his promise to "go the extra mile" on the budget by driving across town to Capitol Hill for a meeting with Mr O'Neill.

The two political sparring partners, who have been trading accusations over the budget for the past two weeks, agreed to meet on neutral ground in the ornate President's Room of the United States Senate. Mr Howard Baker, the Republican majority leader of the Senate, was also invited to attend.

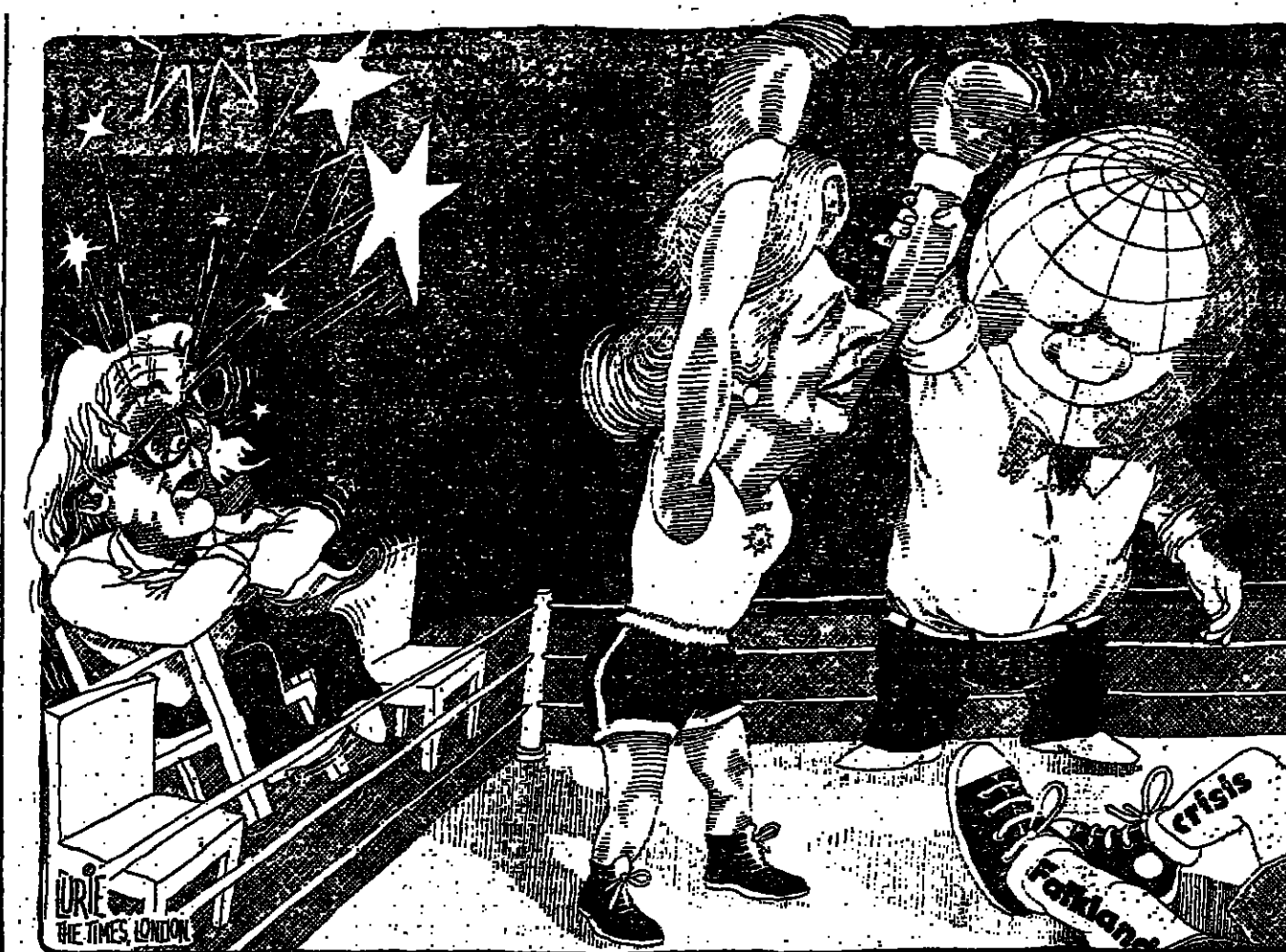
At the outset, members of both parties agreed that the task before the two leaders was both politically important and difficult, if not impossible to achieve. "Both can claim credit for having manoeuvred the budget talks into an impasse. And now both have to figure out a way to break it without getting blamed for it," a senior Republican who participated in the talks said.

If this last-ditch attempt to reach a budget compromise fails, it would trigger both a fierce debate over Mr Reagan's economic policies and severe criticism of the leadership of both men.

The potential for full-scale mutiny within the ranks of both parties has been apparent for weeks. Republican leaders in congress have been open in their criticism of Mr Reagan's budget.

Democrats, who have been equally critical of the budget proposals, have also been open in their dissatisfaction with the leadership of Mr O'Neill. Some younger Democrats, who chair important committees in the House, have privately accused the Speaker of deliberately sabotaging his own party members who were involved in the negotiations.

Based on statements made by the President and Mr O'Neill before the meeting, there was very real fear among members of both parties that the talks would fail.



Round one

## Luxembourg meeting

### Pym tries to end budget deadlock

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg, April 28

Farm ministers met here today in an attempt to agree an agricultural price package which could find the key to the year-old deadlock over how much Britain should pay into the EEC budget. The meeting was called because Belgium, which is the current President of the Council of Ministers, considered that progress was possible.

Logically, Britain has always argued that it is inevitable that this link exists, since any farm price settlement automatically has a direct effect on the size of budget payments. Mr Pym is as sure as his predecessor, Lord Carrington, that this logic holds good at least in the short term.

There is, nevertheless, a very large gap between the amount which Britain is seeking and the amount which the other nine EEC members now seem prepared to offer Britain. For its part, Britain is prepared to remain a small net contributor to the budget although it is seeking a rebate of around £785m. The other nine countries are prepared to offer about £450m.

Mr Frances Pym, the Foreign Secretary, knows that this is a considerable gap to bridge but he showed during yesterday's negotiations that he could be prepared to cede on other points provided the final budget settlement is high enough.

For one thing, he seemed prepared to accept that any agreed deal would last for less than the five years which Britain until now has been demanding. For another, he promised to tell the British Government that the other EEC countries were anxious to break the link Britain has forged between a farm price settlement and the budget.

The operation code-named "Jobs" was launched on Monday simultaneously in Los Angeles, Fort Worth, Houston, Detroit, San Francisco, Newark, New Jersey, New York, Chicago and Denver. The raids will continue for the rest of the week on factories and stores believed to be hiring unregistered foreign workers at a time when unemployment is over nine per cent in the United States.

The raids drew harsh criticism from Hispanic groups who claimed that the highly publicized drive against the illegal aliens was nothing more than a public relations campaign to divert attention from President Reagan's economic policies, which are the real reason for the mounting unemployment.

Initial response appeared to support the Immigration Service's contention that Americans and legal residents would be willing to take the jobs if they were available, although Hispanic leaders, civil rights groups and union leaders have questioned that contention.

The Immigration Service says it expects 3,000 arrests nationally when the week of raids is completed.

## Round-up of aliens stirs US jobless

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, April 28

Over a thousand jobless workers in Los Angeles swamped local companies looking for jobs in the wake of raids by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service arresting over two thousand suspected illegal immigrants.

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## Botha sees Kaunda on Friday

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, April 28

Mr F. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia are to meet on Friday for what could be a significant confrontation between the leaders of the last white-ruled state in Africa and the fading head of state of one of the key black countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

President Kaunda said the talks would concern the settlement negotiations over independence for Namibia (South West Africa) and the situation in South Africa itself, which he described as explosive. He said he had informed leaders of other black "frontline" states about his meeting.

Although there has been no comment by South Africa on the agenda for the meeting, it is firmly believed that Botha on the list will be Zambian requests for assistance in supplying it with maize, the staple food of Africa.

Drought throughout South Africa has badly hit this year's crop, and although South Africa is as badly affected as any other maize-growing region, it has a surplus from last year's harvest which could prove to be a political lifeline to President Kaunda.

The initiative for the meeting was made by President Kaunda and Mr Botha gave the suggestion his qualified approval.

Observers in South Africa see President Kaunda's move as an attempt to retain Lusaka's place as the key centre of the African National Congress (ANC) and Swapo campaigns against South Africa and South West Africa, although the reality is that Angola is now the principal state in negotiations between the "frontline" states and South Africa.

At the same time Mr Botha has not a great deal of room for manoeuvre. He has lost 17 National Party MPs to the new Conservative Party, led by Dr Andries Treurnicht, formerly both leader of the National Party in the Transvaal and a cabinet minister, and the prospects are high that more MPs will desert him when his recommendations are tabled in Parliament next month, over limited political power-sharing with Asians and mixed-raced coloureds.

Both Mr Botha and President Kaunda need to return from their summit in the bush on Friday with something that will convince their supporters they still remain, in their respective spheres, the right men for the moment.

## France to back Quebec without interfering

From John Best, Ottawa, April 28

M. Pierre Mauroy, the French Prime Minister, has told Quebec that France will never again "abandon" it, but that the French Government intends scrupulously to avoid interference in Canadian affairs.

Addressing Quebec's provincial legislature in Quebec City yesterday, M. Mauroy said: "From now on, France will be here, quite present and attentive. She will not abandon you a second time... I say with passion."

"The people of France stand firmly beside your people, Quebec is no longer and will never again be alone in the world."

M. Mauroy was speaking at the close of a five-day visit to Canada which took him to three provinces and included several hours of discussions in Ottawa with Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister. He later flew home to France from Montreal.

His mention of abandonment was a reference to the 200 years after the 1759 English conquest of Quebec,

## French hold 20 ETA militants

A routine identity check at Hendaye, on the Spanish border, at the beginning of this week has enabled the French police to arrest 20 members of the military branch of the Basque terrorist organization including 18 Spaniards, and two Frenchmen. It is the first time French nationals have been directly implicated in the activities of the ETA. With these arrests the police consider that the ETA organization on French soil has been smashed.

The police co-op at Hendaye and at Dax also brought in weapons, a large sum of money, forged documents — passports, identity cards, driving licences and so on — photographic and electronic equipment, and a sophisticated radio transmission set.

## A US diplomat escapes bomb

Athens. — A home-made time bomb exploded under an American diplomat's car in the centre of Athens, police said. An extreme left-wing organisation calling itself Revolutionary Popular Struggle claimed responsibility.

The car was parked outside a private parking site and belonged to Mr Stankias Valerga, Second Secretary at the consular section of the embassy. It was the latest in a series of bomb explosions against American targets in protest against the presence of American military bases in Greece.

Professor's son held by KGB

Moscow. — The son of a prominent Soviet professor, whose works have been published in Britain, has been taken to Lefortovo prison in Moscow charged with anti-Soviet activity, according to human rights campaigners here.

They said that on April 6 the KGB arrested 13 people in Moscow, Leningrad, Minsk and Kiev. Those held in Moscow included trade unionists, religious activists and socialists. Among the socialists was Boris Kagaritsky, aged 21 whose father, Professor Kagaritsky, is a frequent visitor to Britain and has had a book published on H. G. Wells.

Gunner jailed

Dortmund. — Gunner John McDonald, 23, a British soldier whose joyride in a petrol tanker led to the death of a West German businessman, was given an 18-month jail sentence and banned from driving for two years by a German court. He was found guilty of negligently endangering traffic, negligent homicide and drunken driving.

Miners killed

Johannesburg. — Four black miners have been killed in separate incidents at two Anglo-American Corporation gold mines south-west of Johannesburg, an earth tremor killed two and injured seven.

A rockburst at Western Deep Levels killed two miners.

Minister quits

Seoul. — South Korea's Interior Minister Mr Suh Chung Hwa, resigned in disgrace and was replaced by a powerful former general, Mr Kim Young Woon, after the authorities proved unable to stop the killing of 56 people by a drunken policeman at a weekend.

Mobs fired on

Delhi. — Police fired into battling mobs of Hindus and Sikhs, killing one person and injuring 12 others in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar in Punjab. A 24-hour curfew was imposed after rioting which followed the discovery of severed cow heads in front of Hindu shrines.



A helping hand: The Pope assisting a bishop who slipped during the Pontiff's general audience in St Peter's Square, Rome.

## Hersant buys leading Grenoble newspaper

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, April 28

With the announcement yesterday of the takeover of *Le Dauphiné Libéré*, the Grenoble newspaper, M. Robert Hersant, the owner of the largest press group in France, which includes *Le Figaro*, *L'Aurore*, *France-Soir*, and a string of provincial newspapers, added another feather to his cap.

But he has also revived the controversy about the growing threats to the pluralism of the French press, and raised doubts whether it is any better defended under a Socialist government than under its conservative predecessor.

*Le Dauphiné Libéré* had been in financial trouble ever since its divorce with *Le Progrès de Lyon*, the other leading newspaper in the Rhône-Alpes region, two years ago, in spite of a circulation of some 400,000 which made it the second largest provincial daily newspaper in the country, after *Ouest-France*.

## Turkish activists face stiff prison sentences

Istanbul, April 28. — Colonel Suleyman Takkeci, the Military Prosecutor, demanded prison sentences today for a lawyer and an editor who had defended left-wing intellectuals accused of propagating communism.

Mr Burhan Ayaydin, brother of Mr Dragan Ayaydin, the Turkish Peace Association chairman, and Mr Oktay Gonenim, editor-in-chief of the left-wing newspaper *Cumhuriyet*, could go to jail for up to 18 years if found guilty.

Colonel Takkeci said both men had violated military degrees prohibiting political statements. Political activities have been banned in Turkey since the coup in September 1980.

Mr Dragan and about 20 other intellectuals were arrested by the military authorities early this year, and charged with propagating communism, and having ties with the Soviet-backed World Peace Council. — UPI.

□ Ankara: Mr Haluk Bayulken, the Turkish Defence Minister, said here today, at the end of a two-day meeting of the Turkish-American Joint Defence Group, that it was "out of the question for Turkey to participate in the Rapid Deployment Force" planned by the United States.

Mr Bayulken also rejected any possibility of deployment in Turkey of "Euromissiles" or any other nuclear weapons (Reuters telegrams).

A communiqué noted, however, that "the two sides

agreed that enhancement of Turkey's political, economic and military powers was rapidly assuming a vital importance for the peace and the security of the region".

Mr Richard Perle, a Deputy Secretary of Defence, led the American delegation. His Turkish counterpart, at the head of a top-level team of military and civilian experts, was General Necdet Ozturk, the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces.

The communiqué also mentioned that "possible weaknesses in Nato's current defence and deterrent capabilities" had been studied at the meeting.

Turkey has been requesting American assistance for the procurement of arms, as well as in its efforts to develop an indigenous defence industry, within the framework of the two-year-old bilateral Defence Cooperation Agreement. This, in turn, grants Washington continuing use of a number of electronic intelligence stations and an air base.

The United States, however, while agreeing to provide assistance for some tank-modernization and ship-building projects, has been taking care not to commit itself to Turkey's ambitious plans to produce such sophisticated jet fighters as the F16 or F18. The Americans have advised the Turkish authorities to limit their plans to production of cheaper and less sophisticated F15 interceptors.

## Saudis linked to Iran plot

An Iranian jailed for his part in a plot to overthrow Iran's Islamic Government has implicated Saudi Arabia in the attempt, the national news agency IRNA reported yesterday. (Reuters reports from London)

Mr Ahmad Abassi, son-in-law of Ayatollah Kazem Shari'at-Madari, Iran's second-ranking religious leader, said in an interrogation shown on television on Tuesday night that Saudi authorities had promised

their full support for the plot, according to IRNA.

He said Hojatoleslam Mahdavi-Kani, a representative of Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, had met Prince Abdulla, the Saudi second deputy Prime Minister, to tell him about the aims of the plot.

Both Mr Abassi and Hojatoleslam Mahdavi-Kani are being tried by a military court and face possible death sentences.



French hold 20 ETA militants

Some identity check...  
...ETA...  
...French...

A US diplomat escapes bomb

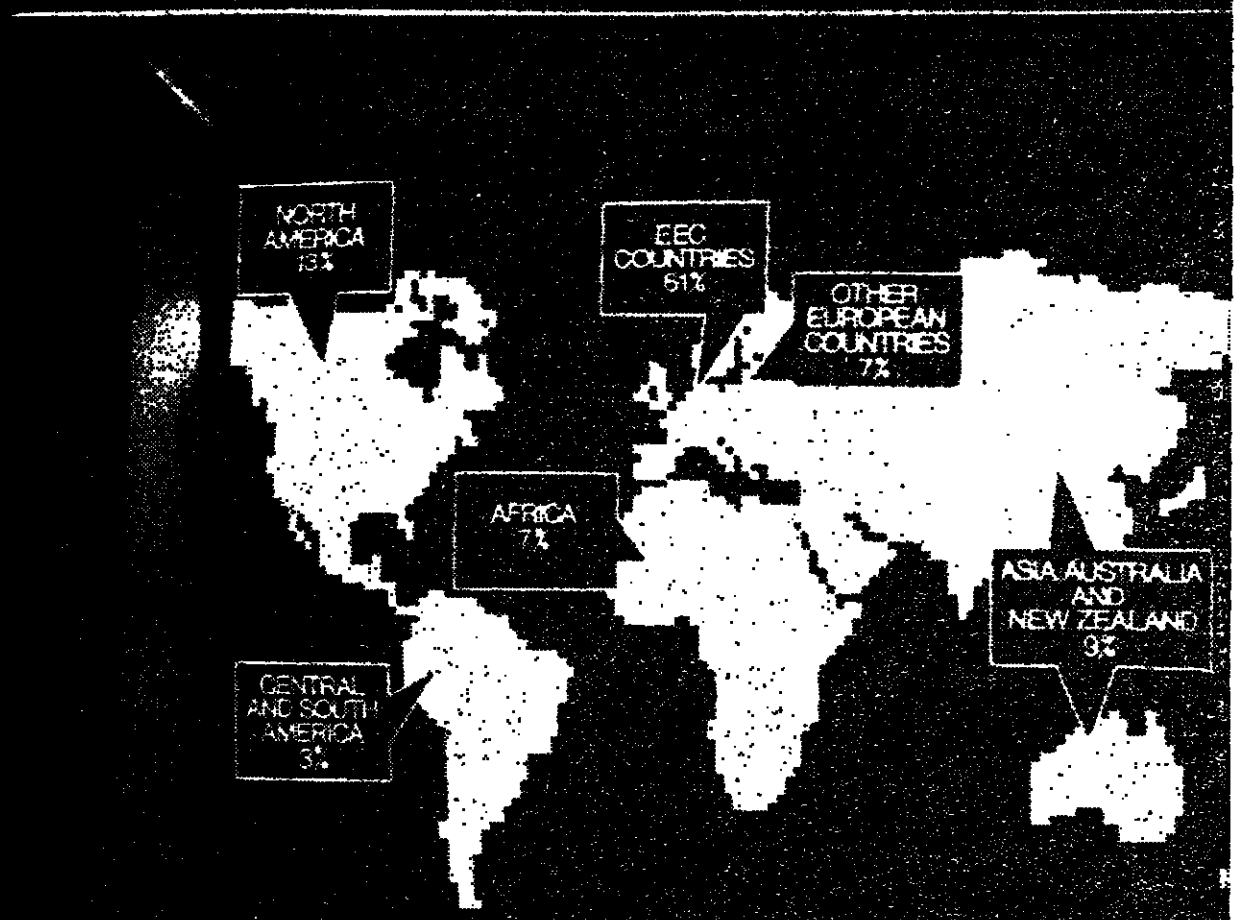
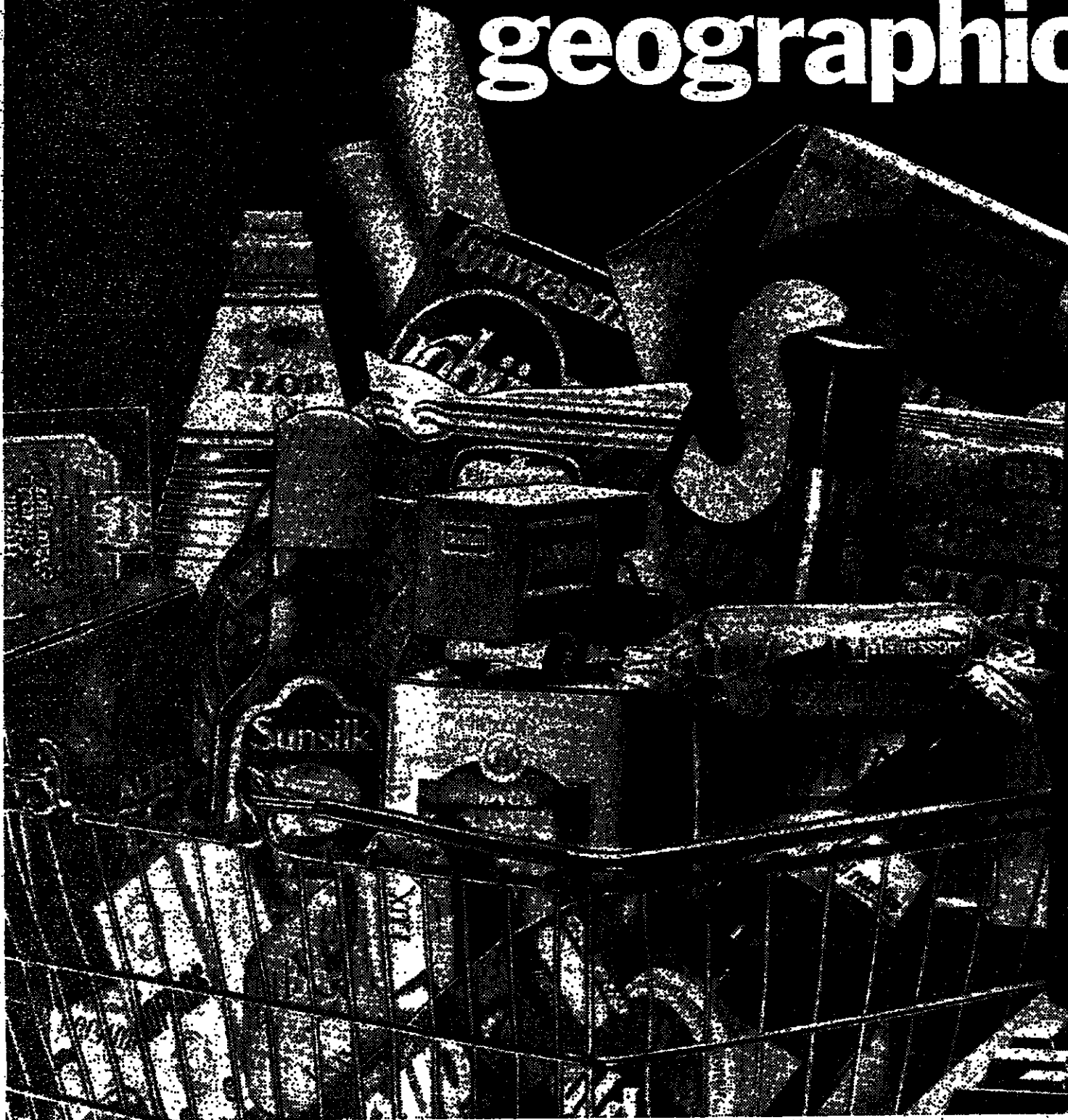
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Professor's son held by KGB

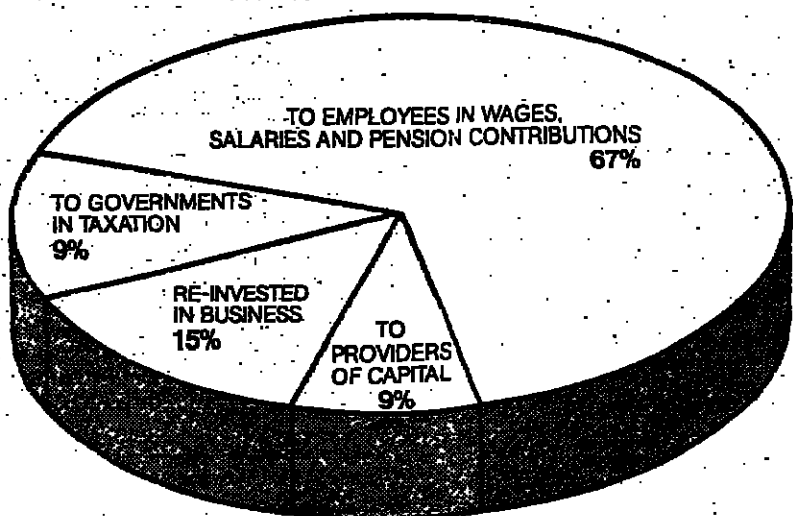
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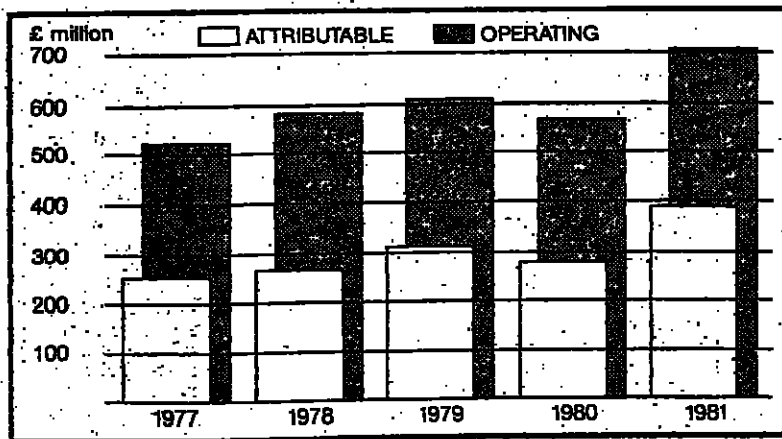
# Financial strength; product diversity; geographical spread.



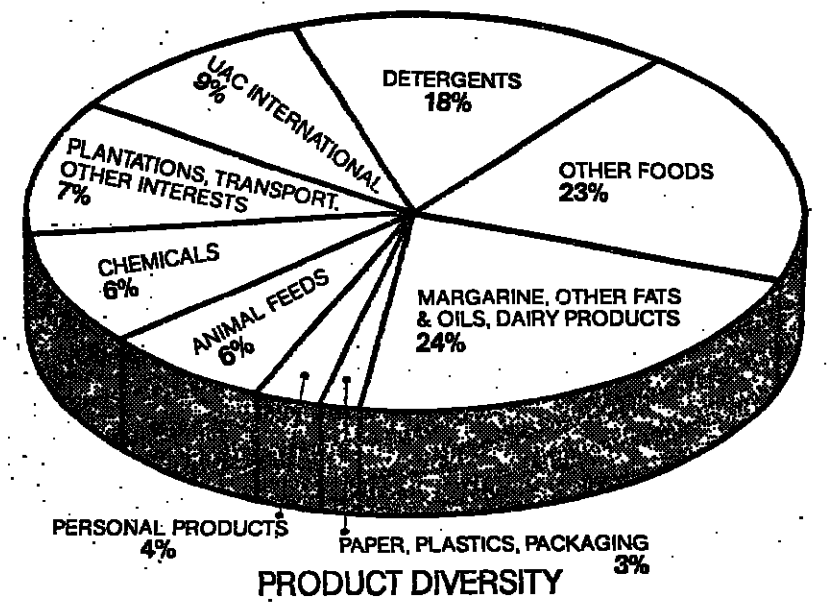
## The facts behind Unilever's 1981 performance



£3,277 million VALUE ADDED



PROFITS



PRODUCT DIVERSITY

### The year in brief

In a difficult year for trading, sales to third parties rose by 17% to £11,889 million. Our operating profit was £705 million, an increase of 22.6% over 1980.

Economic activity remained low in Europe and North America, and consumer expenditure was depressed. The rapid rise in unemployment was particularly disturbing, and inflation remained a problem. Falling export prices and debt servicing costs restrained growth in many developing countries, though a number of other countries' growth was good.

Despite these difficult conditions the wide geographical and commercial range of our activities enabled us to seize the opportunities offered to us where growth was good, while consolidating and improving our position elsewhere. We continued to increase efficiency and productivity by reorganising our operations where necessary.

Most of our companies selling goods to retail and consumer markets continued to maintain or improve their performances. Our companies selling goods and services to other industries were operating in markets seriously affected by over-capacity — but several of them showed a worthwhile improvement, the results of their efforts to increase efficiency and reduce excess capacity where it existed.

We were able to achieve a sales volume increase of two per cent, slightly lower than the increases in the last three years. Results showed a significant increase over 1980, but there were considerable variations between geographical areas and product groups. We devoted substantial resources to maintaining brands by theme advertising and in other ways, and to maintaining our research effort for innovation and product improvement.

### Financial background

The outstanding feature affecting business during the year has been high interest rates, resulting in heavy finance costs. In these circumstances control of capital and cash management assume great importance, and we have been able to perform well in both.

Exchange rates behaved less erratically than in 1980, the change of most significance being the sharp rise of the US dollar against all other major currencies.

### Prospects

There are no grounds for taking an optimistic view of the world economic prospects for 1982.

Consumer expenditure may well fail to rise. The world political scene remains full of uncertainties which do not help economic recovery. However, there is some hope that crude oil prices will remain stable, and that inflation will decline.

During 1982 Unilever will continue to improve the efficiency of its operations, and seek to go on strengthening its position in the market place.

### Employees

Nearly 300,000 people, who work for the parent company and for its subsidiaries around the world, have put their efforts into the results on which we now report. We thank them for maintaining in 1981 the high standards on which Unilever's continued growth and success depend.

Copies of the 1981 Report and Accounts have been posted to shareholders and holders of debentures and unsecured loan stock of Unilever PLC.

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The charge for a 3-minute call between 9am and 1pm (the Peak Rate period) will fall from 89p to 74p, while the charge for a 3-minute call between 8am and 9am, and 1pm and 6pm (the Standard Rate period) will fall from 69p to 59p.

These reductions don't apply on the long-distance routes that bring us most business, where even larger cuts in charges can be made.

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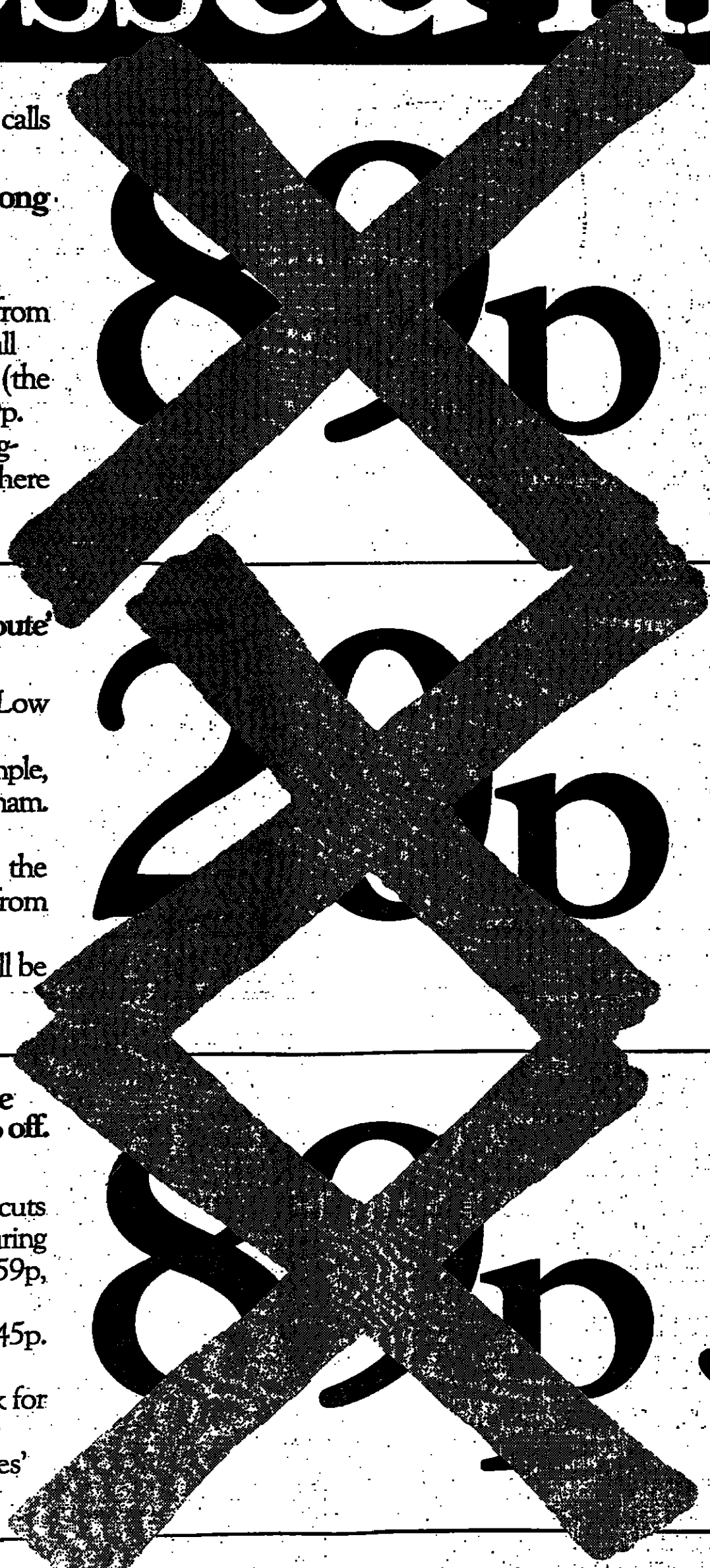
Between 6pm and 8am on weekdays and all weekend (the Cheap Rate period) the cost of a 3-minute call on these routes will fall from 20p to 15p.

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 The sounding furrows; for my  
 To sail beyond the sunset and the  
 Of all the western stars until I  
 And what was this about? It  
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**RS & QUEEN**

And Mrs Thatcher? She is watching, not the interests of the islanders, but her own back-benchers and the Gallup Polls. Her administration has lost a by-election in Glasgow and it needs to sink the Argentine navy in revenge.

Mrs Thatcher has boxed herself into a corner and there is no way out without blood. She will not wish to go down in history in the same verses as the noble Duke of York. She must bring her 10,000 men down the hill with a little more smoke and glory.

Westminster has put this piece of theatre and the next act has after a dull second scene in which it was upstaged by General Haig — some colourful climax

It is not only that this has not been tried, it is that Mrs Thatcher, in preferring to fall back upon American brokerage and her own military menace, has thrown away the goodwill which, two weeks ago, would have made the attempt feasible. With the hostilities and blood on South Georgia, with each more escalation of menace, the more Britain drags herself back, in the world's eyes, into the stereotypes of her own imperial history, and the more support for the islanders' case falls away.

And this is the work of Nemesis on one who has said that we have ceased to take the United Nations seriously as a peace-enforcing agency, ever since Third World

Some of the Falklanders (I am told) are the descendants of crofters from the Western Isles, victims of the clearances of the last century. They deserved something better than another clearance of their cousins who clung on in the Isles, and whose way of life is now threatened, not by Argentina, but by the Nato base to be built at Stornoway. If I were to mount an expeditionary force it would be directed there. It would be unarmed.

basis for negotiation, there will be no benefit for Labour from this success; rather the contrary, as the opinion polls indicate. Labour's plight would be even worse if it had been seen to snipe at a policy that had succeeded.

For this reason, if for no other, it was hard for Labour to refuse general support for the Government's policies simply to prepare for the contingency that they might fail. Yet if the Government's policies hit really rough water, and Labour were not sufficiently detached from them, the left would fall on its own leaders with fearful fury.

Hence the inconsistency and dishonesty of Labour's position

To send such a force and then fear to use it would risk destroying the credibility of any future force we deployed elsewhere. Mr Foot began this crisis with some very patriotic speeches when it seemed that he had the Government on the hop. Now those speeches ring pretty hollow. Once more Mr Foot sounds like a politician who will shake a fist from a distance but never use it. That is dangerous... not only for his own and the Labour Party's credibility, but for the chances of securing the kind of negotiated settlement that we all

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# Where Labour is less than honest

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**Harpers & Queen**  
**THE PUKKA GUIDE TO POLO**  
 WHERE this fast-rising  
 sport is played, HOW to play it  
 HOW to find a beau with a string  
**THE PARENTS' GUIDE**  
**TO STAGE FRIGHT**  
 School plays from Eton to Roedean  
**GREAT SUMMER SUPPLEMENT**  
**HQ MEN:** suited, tied and  
 striped for action  
 and  
**THE GREAT INTERIOR DESIGNERS**  
 David Mearns  
**WHERE DO YOU GET ALL THIS**  
**AND MORE FOR ONLY £1?**  
**IN HARPERS & QUEEN**

Sir George Schuster who celebrated his 101st birthday last Sunday, is one of a select band of former members of Parliament to have reached his century. Three of those who have done so were lawyers.

Apart from Sir George himself, the others were Nathaniel Micklem (1853-1954) and Sir Harry Brittain (1873-1974). Micklem was one of

**Holier than Eyes**

The continuing case of William of Pressdram and Others at the Old Bailey has revealed Lord Goff's envy of the Newspaper Proprietors' Association. In the press box Richard Ingram

grams carried a "hit list" in a "pocket" of potential victims for campaigns of denigration, which the editor denied. "Do you have it in your mind then?" asked counsel. "It would be too long," came the smooth rejoinder.

Since one of the articles complained of was written by Patrick

His grandmother is a Russian cook, specializing in borscht and likely to apologize for serving seven courses instead of 11. His mother was brought up in France and is mistress of their style. Smith claims to be a competent cook himself. His favourite dish is chicken in 40 garlic cloves, which sounds appalling.

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From Mr L

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*(continued from page 6)*

April 14, 1964



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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## TOO MANY MEN AT THE HELM

To judge from Question Time on Tuesday, today's Commons debate on the Falklands threatens to be more partisan than those which have preceded it. But the House must be careful. The principles laid down at the first debate are still intact. The Government's strategy then, as now, was to undo the aggression, and thereafter be prepared to negotiate an agreement which would prevent such circumstances recurring. That meant that the Argentine troops had to be withdrawn from the Islands before anything else could occur but that, following such a withdrawal, Britain would recognise that the tension caused by the issue of disputed sovereignty lay at the root of the aggression, and would show willingness to discuss any ways to relieve that tension. The only condition was that any future agreement had to be consistent with the Islanders' security — as much, and certainly no less, than before — and with the vital strategic principle that no unprovoked aggression, anywhere in the world, should receive a gratuitous award if one is in a position to deny it. In other words, sovereignty could be arbitrated about, and then discussed on the basis of rights; but could certainly not be ceded under any kind of duress.

That was the strategic objective and the tactics to be employed in achieving it were, and are, a necessary mixture of negotiation and the counterforce deployment of the Fleet. It is therefore tactics — not strategy — that the House is debating today. In particular, it is the tactical balance to be maintained between negotiations and counterforce, between carrot and stick, between soft voice and strong arm.

There are two difficulties which the House should bear in mind. The first is over the nature of the Argentine Government with which Britain is trying to negotiate. The second is the safety of the British troops engaged in dangerous but necessary operations. The two are connected in the sense that, on both counts, the Prime Minister will not be able to take the

House fully into her confidence. It is important in any dispute, even at the level of the family solicitor, to discover who speaks for the other party. In the case of Argentina, this has proved virtually impossible to discover, even for the United States, let alone for Great Britain. It is frequently possible to negotiate with dictators and reach agreement with them because, by their nature, they have no wider constituency to worry about. That is not the case with the Argentine junta. It is not the case that President (or should it just be Lieutenant General?) Galtieri has the power to make decisions and to see that they are carried through.

Even during Mr Haig's visits to Buenos Aires and more particularly since then, the Americans have found themselves unable to answer even the most elementary questions about the people with whom they are dealing in the Argentine leadership. What is the junta? Who decides for it? At every stage of negotiation there seem to be personal and inter-service rivalries which distort the picture. There are also colonels in the wings, apparently dictating different terms to those previously agreed round the table. It is like negotiating with a blamange. Indeed, it is not really a negotiation at all, though that can scarcely be admitted by statesmen who realise that this apparent — though hardly real — process is all that stands between them and the inevitable extension of the military option which accompanies it.

That brings us to the second difficulty about today's debate. It is doubly clear that the momentum of negotiations — if that is what it can be called — is only kept going at all by the prospect of imminent military operations. If that prospect receded, it would expose servicemen to greater risks, but it would also increase the blamange-like properties of the junta's negotiating position. We would all be the losers.

Yesterday's announcement of the air exclusion zone is

consistent with everything that has gone before. It announced that Britain will from noon on Friday be in a position to deny Argentina any further supply or reinforcement to its invasion force. Equally it gives the junta 48 hours grace in which to comply with the United Nations resolution and withdrawal. Once the quarantine is established there are a number of military options open to the Government, but they should not be widely discussed in the House today. However it is not only the Fleet that cannot be allowed to wallow for long in the inhospitable South Atlantic seas. Pressure must be kept up continuously, in the diplomatic sphere, economically and through military tactics to undo the aggression.

The mood in the House on Tuesday, and the correspondence between the Prime Minister and Mr Foot, suggest that the Government may be in danger now of losing the cross-party support that has sustained it so far. A bi-partisan approach reassures the country, and has impressed the rest of the world. It would be a pity to lose it; but, like peace, unity can be bought at too high a price. It is not yet even certain that the unity of the House, behind the Government's general strategy, is up for sale. It is conditional, and has always been so, and the conditions are simply being re-examined.

However, though Mrs Thatcher would be right to continue to listen to opinions expressed from all parts of the House, she is equally right to retain for the Government its freedom of manoeuvre, particularly in the military sphere, to do what it believes to be advisable without first having to take it out on the House of Commons, or to try it out on the United Nations. The strategy has been defined, and supported. To give a wider body now the chance to wrangle over the tactical details, without its having the full facts on which to base considered judgments, would put more lives at risk in the South Atlantic than there are already. The House will have to exercise self-control.

## NOT THE ANSWER FOR BRITISH AIRWAYS

Fiddling with management structures is rarely a solution to a fundamental commercial malaise and is most unlikely to prove so in the case of British Airways. The decision of the corporation with Cabinet backing to announce a return to the old BEA-BOAC divisions of long-haul and short-haul operations has been presented as a return to all those good old-fashioned concepts of devolved management and profit centres. It may be. The measures seem to have been proposed by a lengthy and still confidential report on the corporation by accountants Price, Waterhouse. But the real impetus has rather different origins.

The Government is now in a hurry to show real progress in its plans to privatise the large public corporations and introduce private shareholding into British Airways. In the present parlous state of the air industry in general, and of British Airways in particular, and with the stock market uncertainties in the background, the chances of a successful BA sale have recently seemed slim. Restoring old operating divisions has the double advantage of seeming to do something and producing a separation of accounts that makes it easier to sell shares in, or the whole assets of the more successful

bits of British Airways, such as helicopters.

The idea is not without some management logic. The two halves of British Airways have never easily settled down together and many of its management problems have arisen from the inability of a badly-structured central management to overcome past rivalries. As so often in both private and nationalised industries, the result of large-scale mergers has been to produce more bureaucracy rather than greater economy. If a restoration of old loyalties can raise morale and help prune costs, so much the better.

What the reorganization cannot do, of course, is bring the corporation back to profitability within the two years envisaged by its chairman, Sir John King. BA's problems arise from running too many routes with too many staff and too little efficiency at a time of considerable surplus capacity in the market and much lower demand growth than expected.

The corporation is doing something about its overmanning. Already 9,000 have left under a voluntary redundancy scheme, and a further 6,000 may still have to go to get manning down to competitive levels. The new structure may do something for efficiency,

although it is hard to see that a series of divisions, each with its own apparatus of boards and overheads topped by still more central boards, will promote leanness. The only things that can be done to turn round the finances are to raise fares by international agreement (hardly a competitive stance for this government), to sell subsidiaries in hotels and helicopters (a likely development), and drastically to reduce routes (which involves political decisions about the nature of a flag carrier).

At the moment British Airways is a state airline operating in a world where state airlines and inter-state agreements determine market conditions. If the Government wishes to abandon this role, then it should sell British Airways entirely and let the market produce the operators and the routes. If the Government wants to continue using a flag carrier to support the aircraft manufacturing industry and to ensure a British presence on certain routes, then there is little to be gained by private share ownership. The latter course would be to sell off whichever parts are inessential to the main objectives of a flag carrier, and to promote efficiency by allowing open competition from private airlines.

## Ordination of women

From the Reverend G. R. and Dr K. M. Curry  
Sir, On what grounds does your leader writer assert today (April 22) that "the ordination of women is right in principle"? The Anglo-Catholic, according to his principles, says that such is contrary to the traditions and teaching of the Church, whilst the Evangelical says that the introduction of such a practice is forbidden by Scripture. One can only suppose then that this assertion is based on the so-called majority view of the middle-of-the-road "men" of the Church of England.

We would all do well to note carefully George Bernard Shaw's words: "The majority is always wrong; the minority sometimes right" before we do something that we will later regret.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE CURRY,  
KATHRYN CURRY,  
St Stephen's Vicarage,  
Clumber Street, Cradock Park,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

**Polo's travels**  
From Mr John Black  
Sir, Your "Focus on China" of April 14, had an article on Marco

Polo, "The Explorer's Tracks", in which some doubt is cast on whether Marco Polo ever visited China. It cannot be denied that Marco Polo embroiled on hearsay accounts and that he is on no Chinese historical records of the period but it must be said that an extraordinary number of scholars spent much time in in-depth study of his travels.

The basis of the case against Marco Polo, in your article, is that he showed no interest in recording his travels until he was a prisoner of war in Genoa. There with a fellow-prisoner, Rustichello of Pisa, sometimes known as Rustichello, an author of romance novels in Franco-Italian, Marco told his story. Your writer would appear to consider, with some others, that Rustichello's version is the Polian Bible and all texts handed down are its descendants.

Did Marco Polo make notes and a memorandum during his long sojourn in the East? Did he recount something of his travels to fellow-Venetians and indeed his three daughters? Before he died about 1328, there is some evidence to prove that Marco Polo handed all his documents and maps to one Admiral Rugiero Sanseverinus, referred to by his descendants as the "Ancestor".

In this respect Leo Bagrow's *The Maps from the Home Archives of the Descendants of a Friend of Marco Polo*, Image Mundi 5(1948):3-13, is of interest.

But there is another reference to Marco Polo's China-relation which cannot be left out. Sir Aurel Stein, at the beginning of this century, describing his journey across the formidable deserts of Taklamakan and Gobi, makes reference 18 times in his *Ruins of Desert Cathay* to Marco Polo's account and its close comparison to his own experience.

Then, finally, it must be said that Marco Polo's record is one of the important sources for the obscure history and archaeology of Central Asia. It is enough to say here that this was accepted at a much later date through his version of the ruined cities of Karakhoja near Turfan in Xinjiang province and Karakoto at the oasis of Etsin Gol, in the province of Gansu, identified by Stein as Marco Polo's Etsin.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN BLACK,  
63 The Woodlands,  
Essex,  
April 22.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Laws of war applicable to armed conflict in the Falklands

From Mr Adam Roberts  
Sir, As the crisis over the Falklands reaches its most acute stage the Government owes it to those most directly involved — especially our Forces in the area and the inhabitants of the occupied territory — to clarify the application of the laws of war to this armed conflict and to the Argentine occupation of the islands.

The Government has got into a confusion of its own making about the applicability of the laws of war in general and the status of prisoners in particular. A statement made by a Ministry of Defence spokesman on Monday, April 26, and an answer by the Prime Minister in the Commons on the same day both indicated that the Argentine military personnel captured in South Georgia on April 25 and 26 are not prisoners of war. The Prime Minister's exact words were: "Those prisoners are not prisoners of war. A state of war does not exist between ourselves and the Argentine".

The British authorities seem unaware of the fact that the laws of war are applicable in cases of armed conflict or military occupation whether or not there is any formal state of war or declaration of war. This was explicitly recognized in 1946 in the judgment of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg, in statements regarding the German occupation of Czechoslovakia, and the same point is spelt out in common article 2,

which appears in each of the four Geneva conventions of 1949. It states, inter alia: "The present Convention shall apply to all cases of declared war or of any other armed conflict which may arise between two or more of the High Contracting Parties, even if the state of war is not recognized by one of them".

Argentina is a party to the Hague land war convention of 1864, Britain to the almost identical Hague land war convention of 1907. The terms of the latter convention (and annexed regulations) have been authoritatively viewed as declaratory of customary international law, and hence binding on all states. In addition, both Britain and Argentina are parties to all four Geneva conventions of 1949. Both states are also parties to the 1925 Geneva Protocol.

The conclusion from all this is inescapable that the laws of war have been fully applicable to the Argentine occupation of the Falkland Islands, and to the armed conflict in that area, ever since April 2, even if there is not a formal state of war.

In the past, both parties have so far conducted their hostilities with considerable care, but there are nevertheless grounds for concern about the observance of the laws of war. It is astonishing that the Government has failed to put publicly and in detail that the Argentine occupation of the islands is subject to numerous detailed provisions of the Hague regulations and of 1907 Geneva Convention IV — and that

certain of these provisions have apparently not been observed.

It is also surprising that the Government has not expressly recognized that the military personnel captured on both sides so far must, under article 4 of the 1949 Geneva Convention III, be regarded as, and treated as, prisoners of war; article 117 of this same convention should also be noted: "No repatriated person may be employed on active military service".

Clarification is needed on these and many other points before, not after, the conflict worsens. Yours sincerely,  
ADAM ROBERTS,  
Reader in International Relations,  
St Antony's College,  
Oxford,  
April 28.

From Lord Perth  
Sir, Lord Mishcon's letter of April 26 advocates letting the islands know we are ready to submit our sovereignty claim to The Hague court. I agree we should at the same time announce that three or more flags can fly while the court considers the case, provided resolution 502 is not put into effect.

Let us always remember that over the long term the welfare of the islands must depend on Argentina. Yours truly,  
PERTH,  
House of Lords,  
April 27.

### The roots of crisis

From Lord Buxton  
Sir, Possibly the first benefit of the present crisis is that nobody can afford to score party points following the Argentine invasion. The cupboard is full of skeletons written by Government's label since 1965, because in the interval ministers of all parties have been misled by short-sightedness and misjudgment, however well intentioned.

The regular official references to "the cost of protecting 1,800 distant subjects" and the monstrous cost of British subjects with that world millions ("the islanders receive more aid per capita than any other country") have shown over and over again that Whitehall has never comprehended that the Falklands and South Georgia and the other Dependencies are the key to the political stability of the South Atlantic and the safeguard of the free world's future interests and opportunities in Antarctica. Even if only 10 Falkland islanders want to remain after this hideous and needless experience, this factor remains paramount.

Therefore that at last we have a Government with the courage to acknowledge and redeem the fatal blunders of judgment which have cost our country in a matter of days the millions which would have been enough to protect the Antarctic interests of Britain and the West probably for half a century or more.

I had a long private talk with Señor Costa Méndez in Buenos Aires on February 22 and I make no comment here on my impressions, but the personal laws of individual British ministers with whom he had contact during two terms of office over more than 15 years were revealing and allow nobody to claim that the Government alone bears the responsibility for the present catastrophic situation which at long last is being faced up to with firm resolution.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
BUXTON,  
Stiffey,  
Norfolk,  
April 27.

From Mr Julian Cooper  
Sir, I was born in Argentina of British parents, hold British passports, but my personal laws of individual British ministers with whom he had contact during two terms of office over more than 15 years were revealing and allow nobody to claim that the Government alone bears the responsibility for the present catastrophic situation which at long last is being faced up to with firm resolution.

I was appalled by the jingoism of your leading article "We are all Falklanders now" (April 25). Let us parades you for printing the article by Tony Emerson (April 24). His piece showed real insight, perhaps of a kind available only to someone who actually lives in Argentina. I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
Labour Minister at the Foreign

Office, though rightly concerned in his article (April 26) about the welfare of the Falklanders, reveals a contempt for Argentina which would be unlikely to lead to a peaceful solution. To say that "the Argentines were revealed as unscrupulous cheats" is not the language of effective diplomacy.

I believe it would be unwise to regard the retaking of South Georgia with the enthusiasm of a football supporter whose side has just scored. In terms of Britain's long-term interests, let alone the far more important question of simple humanity in one's behaviour to other human beings, every Argentine death inflicted by Britain and every injury to Argentine self-respect is equivalent to our scoring an "own goal".

I telephoned my parents yesterday. Just outside Buenos Aires, retain their British passports, are now in their late seventies, and have lived peacefully in Argentina for over 50 years. They both said that since the crisis began they have been moved by the sympathy and kindness of their friends and neighbours of all Argentines, some of British descent and some not.

Seen from Buenos Aires, the Foreign Office advice to British subjects to evacuate Argentina, looks about as practical as suggesting that British subjects should evacuate Britain. Yours faithfully,  
JULIAN COOPER,  
40 68 Grove Park Road, W4,  
April 26.

From Mr John W. Lucas  
Sir, It now sadly seems that Mr Haig's shuttle between London, Buenos Aires and Washington to secure passage in the South Atlantic has failed.

As he stated, time is running out. Who then can mediate? Surely it cannot be too difficult to realize that there is now only one government and country left on Earth that can try to abort war in the Falklands.

Spain has maintained a neutral balance in the last three weeks, abstaining in the UN Security Council. Spain is a democratic, western European monarchy, like us, with young men of good will in government and opposition.

Spain is joining Nato in the next few weeks and therefore, before the summer starts, will be our fully fledged ally. She also has stronger ties with the Argentine than any nation on Earth (with the possible exception of Uruguay). Most Argentines respect the old mother country, as they call Spain, and would possibly listen more to Spain than to the United States.

Some "analysts" say what about Gibraltar? I would answer that the situation between Spain and the United Kingdom vis à vis this problem (Gibraltar) is all the more reason why Spain should be asked, or should offer its good services, to abort a war.

### Perils in Sicily

From Mrs D. B. Waterhouse  
Sir, I have every sympathy with Mr John Tatham and his wife (April 26) in their unpleasant experience in Sicily. But with reference to his last paragraph, it is not always essential that there should be a consulate at hand.

In October last year my handbag was snatched in Palermo by two youths with a motor scooter, although I had thought I was alert to the danger. It contained little money, but did hold my passport. It was Saturday evening, most places were closed, but the police station was open and busy.

The police official, while typing out in quadruplicate the details of my loss with great panache and somewhat eccentric spelling (it was the sixteenth of his kind he had done that day), assured me that there was no need to try and contact the British consul, as the authorities in Sicily and in England would accept the police report.

This proved perfectly correct, and with a copy of the report I had no difficulty in re-entering England, in obtaining a new passport and in claiming the full insurance.

Incidentally, five months later my passport was handed in to the British consul — in Naples. Yours faithfully,  
JESSIE WATERHOUSE,  
5 Essex Villas, W8,  
April 27.

### John Walters case

From the Director of the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory  
Sir, In last Saturday's issue (April 17) you commented in a preview on the BBC programme *Rough Justice*, which was subsequently transmitted on Wednesday evening, April 21. Unfortunately the section dealing with the forensic evidence, both in your feature and in the BBC transmission, was incorrect. The details are as follows:

The clothing of the victim and of the laboratory and the extraneous items were received in separate sealed packages. That of the victim was examined in the laboratory and the extraneous items were examined before the suspect's clothing was unsealed. Therefore there can be no substance in the allegations of fibre transfer by accident in the laboratory. The suspect's coat was a blue/mauve cotton corduroy jacket with a mauve

synthetic lining. (Fibres from the blue coat appeared under the microscope.) There were 23 fibres matching those of the jacket found in the victim's clothes. These were mauve cotton, matching the outside of the jacket. They were found on the blouse, skirt and jacket of the victim.

Also found on the clothing of the victim were some green cotton fibres which matched those composing the suspect's trousers. The matching of the fibres was not just visually by colour. It included comparison microscopy, ultra-violet fluorescence microscopy, and thin layer chromatographic analysis of the dyes. The mauve colour had four different dye components and that of the green fibres had three.

It is highly improbable that these fibres would be picked up by the victim by random chance. Yours truly,  
D. L. WILLIAMS,  
The Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory,  
109 Lambeth Road, SE1,  
April 23.

### Coroners' powers

From Mr Henry Hartley  
Sir, The article (April 13) by Mr Michael Meacher, MP, and the letter (April 24) by Mr M. J. D. Baker show the necessity for changes in coroners' powers. A further change should be to grant a discretionary power (subject to proper safeguards) to coroners to dispense with public inquests in cases where deceased take their own lives.

In many of these cases the statements taken by coroners' officers and the post-mortem reports clearly show the cause of death and the intention of the deceased, and public inquests in such cases cause distress to relatives, may encourage others to imitate a deceased's action, and serve no useful social purpose.

Yours faithfully,  
HENRY HARTLEY,  
3 Watford Road,  
Buxton,  
Derbyshire,  
April 26.

### Restoration of the death penalty

From Mr Louis FitzGibbon  
Sir, The essence of Nicholas Fairbairn's argument for the restoration of capital punishment (April 27) is the availability of the death sentence for capital crime. He argues exactly that it is up to the judge and jury to decide upon the motives of the offender: if they are seen to be from motives other than pure and deliberate intent, then a killing may be a manslaughter. If, on the other hand, they can be perceived to emanate from evil, then a verdict of guilty of murder would be returned.

Her Majesty's judges are not foolish, and it is the trial judge of the day saw before him a man who was sadistic and bad to the core he would be failing in his duty to the Crown and to the people if he did not sentence him to death. Knowledge of this would indeed, as it did in days of yore, deter criminals bent on robbery, rape or other such. As "organizer" of Duncan Sandys's petition to Parliament in 1967-68 I met several real criminals; they all abhorred the idea of abolishing the ultimate sanction for they knew that without it robbers would take guns to banks when otherwise they would not.

What is so often forgotten is that in 1965 the death penalty was abolished for five years, which is to say that a final decision would have been due in the summer of 1970. However, the Home Secretary of that time foresaw party difficulties for a general election and he managed to bring the date for decision forward by a whole eight months. Thus it was that capital punishment was abolished in December of 1969 — Parliament was bamboozled, and the people were deprived of a sure shield against predators.

As discipline declines in our country, the majority want hanging brought back, for they realize by instinct that this is what is needed. Yet parliamentarians somehow balk at the idea. Let us hope they will not shirk their representative duty this time.

In your same issue you publish a small letter from a cleric: what he forgets is that an evil man once given his deserts cannot commit his crime again. In my view, churchmen would do better to be upon their knees praying for humanity, such as would prevent them from speaking out upon matters which are not their concern.

If, D.V., capital punishment can be restored to the statute book then we shall see a return of the Great Britain of which we were once so proud.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Yours sincerely,  
LOUIS FITZGIBBON,  
Langstone Towers,  
Langstone,  
Havant,  
Hampshire,  
April 27.

### Housing the poor

From Mr A. Chappell  
Sir, In your second leader of today's date (April 21) you aver: "Council housing should not be charity housing for the poor" and thus support a very popular view. My, minority, view is that this is precisely what it should be.

Those successful tenants who can earn £8,000 a year, or more, should be congratulated and helped to move out and on to better things. Their places would then become available for the poor who deserve our help — the homeless, the one-parent families, the low-wage earners and, indeed, all those living in substandard and inadequate private accommodation.

The Conservative policy is to sell at low cost to the tenant, the property he has long rented, at low cost.

The Labour policy is to perpetuate low rents to its sitting tenants and that largely irrespective of their income.

One of these philosophies, the "poor", as defined above, get nowhere. Yours truly,  
A. CHAPPELL,  
26 Victoria Road,  
Abingdon,  
Oxfordshire,  
April 21.

### Surgeon's hungry allies

From Mr A. A. Berends  
Sir, A reproduction of Dr George Merryweather's "Tempest Prognosticator" using a dozen leeches in bottles (Letters, April 20, 24), shown at the 1851 Great Exhibition, constructed for the 1951 Festival of Britain Exhibition, is on view at Whitby, North Yorks, where it occupies a prominent place in the museum run by the Whitby Literary & Philosophical Society, of which Dr Merryweather was at one time Hon. Curator.

Though the concept of using leeches in such an equipment may now seem amusing it was certainly intended seriously at the time. Dr Merryweather confidently hoped that "our Whitby pygmy temples would be distributed over the world". Yours faithfully,  
A. A. BERENDS,  
Hon. Keeper & Joint Hon. Sec. Whitby Literary & Philosophical Society,  
Whitby Museum,  
Pannett Park,  
Whitby, North Yorkshire,  
April 26.

From Mr S. B. Jackson  
Sir, Should not "Surgeon's hungry allies" be "Surgeon's thirsty allies"? Yours faithfully,  
S. B. JACKSON,  
17 Lingsfield Close,  
Northwood,  
Middlesex







THE ARTS

Jazz

Singer supreme

Betty Carter  
Ronnie Scott's

Twenty years ago Betty Carter was a peripheral figure, barely even allowed to join the queue which formed up behind Ella, Sarah and Carmen. Twenty years hence, baring mishaps, she will be universally viewed as the grande dame of jazz singing.

The slow but inexorable rise to prominence of this thoroughly remarkable musician is one of the miracles of recent jazz history.

Her early visits to Ronnie Scott's were notable for fidgety audiences caught unawares by the uncompromising nature of her performance. To enter the club during one of her sets this week was to be enmeshed in the stillness of absolute attention; at last the audience has caught up with her.

To keep up, however, we must continue to run. Miss Carter was always unlikely to relax in the face of acceptance, and her current performance makes it clear that she will never be content with merely refining a highly idiosyncratic style. Now we can hear her scat-singing, always the most difficult aspect of a jazz vocalist's art, moving away from the standard nonsense syllables into a kind of musical Esperanto which is far more varied and expressive.

Still, though, the dead-slow ballads are her glory, particularly when she picks up a piece of Tin Pan Alley fluff and invests it with previously unimaginable substance. "When I Fall in Love" for example, has a line about moonlight kissing cooling in the warmth of the sun which would pass unnoticed in the crooning of Nat Cole or the gleecubbing of the Lettermen; stretched and warped by Miss Carter, italicized by graceful slow-motion gestures reminiscent of tango, it becomes startlingly surrealistic.

She is famous for her prescient choice of accompanists, who must listen and respond to her at least as acutely as they would to a horn-player. The pianist Khalid Moss, the bassist Curtis Lundy and the drummer Louis Nash have been with her a while, and respond with instant power to the slightest touch of throttle or brake. They are at Frith Street until May 6.

Richard Williams

Paris galleries

The overall vision of Jackson Pollock

Jackson Pollock/  
Man Ray  
Centre Georges Pompidou  
Léger et l'esprit moderne  
Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris  
Pascin  
Hôtel de Ville de Paris  
Varlin  
Galerie Claude Bernard/  
Galerie Albert Loeb

Where artists came from is seldom as interesting as where they eventually go to. But supposing that the art of their maturity is enduring enough to hold our attention years after they themselves are dead, the whole question of by what stages and through what uncharted ways they arrived at it assumes a fascination of its own. Now that nearly all the major figures of that great Fifties flowering of American painting which made New York for a while the undisputed capital of contemporary art are gone, naturally we have been having a series of elaborate retrospectives, with solid documentation of the beginning and early works unearthed for our delectation and dissection. And it is amazing how frequently a Surrealist child proves to be father of the Abstract Expressionist man.

That is even the case with Jackson Pollock, at the time the most famous and controversial of all the New York painters. Though on the evidence of the large-scale Pollock show at the Centre Pompidou (until May 10) one should perhaps talk rather of a Surrealist teenager, since at least two important stages of Pollock's artistic development before the Surrealist are clearly revealed. This is the first Pollock show which his widow, the painter Lee, has not only advised on, but opened her own extraordinary holding of his work to. Last November there was a sort of forerunner in the intriguing show at NYU's Grey Gallery called *Krasner/Pollock: A Working Relationship*, which demonstrated clearly how husband and wife went through much the same phases and underwent much the same influences in the Thirties and Forties before achieving their separate maturities at the beginning of the Fifties.

From that we could discover the significance of Pollock's having studied under Thomas Hart Benton, a painting such as *Camp with Rig* in the New York show or *Going West* in this even looks like the work of Benton and that group

of American regionalist realists. We also get in Paris clear evidence of the next important influence underpinning *Naked Man with Knife* of c.1940: immediately calls to mind, both in its predominantly terra cotta colouring and in its overall melodramatic gesture, the murals of Orozco. It is in the early Forties that a decidedly Surrealist tinge came over the work (especially the drawings, not shown here). And by 1943 two of the vital interests of Pollock as we first knew him are becoming apparent in *Guardians of the Secret* there is an overlay of calligraphic scribbles, and in *Composition with Pouring II* (poured paint, that is) we see the genesis of the drip and dribble and splash technique which gained him instant notoriety a few years later.

So, how do those famous "action paintings" of 1947-53 look now? Surprisingly enough, the general effect is one of tranquillity. For all one knows about how he painted them (the famous film of Pollock at work is showing continuously in the lobby), not to mention the frenzy of his private life, what is distilled into art is strangely restful, an abstract pattern as airy and remote as an oriental manuscript, holding passion at a remove of exquisite formality. This is broken up in the troubled paintings of the last year when Pollock seems to be going in several directions at once — even in *Portrait and a Dream*, within one painting (the left-hand side is a black-and-white abstraction, the right a perfectly recognizable human head in colour). It is a very revealing show, giving us at last a proper chance to see Pollock whole and proving that in his case distance in time (it is, after all, getting on for 30 years since he died) does lend enchantment to the view.

In comparison, the other major show at Beaubourg, Man Ray (until May 2), is almost wilfully marginal and elusive. That is perhaps because it centres, officially, on Man Ray's photographic work, but by its physical arrangement suggests that the photographs are a kind of annex to his paintings and constructions. In any case, 57 non-photographic, or not primarily photographic, works (even as against 370 much smaller photographs) are not easily dismissed. And some of the paintings are really astonishing: the bare outlines of the large *Trois parolles pour dames* or *cavaliers délicats* (elaborated between 1917 and 1927) seem much closer to the world of Patrick Caulfield than that of early Dalí or Ernst, comparisons which suggest themselves elsewhere. But there is no doubt that, while Man Ray's standing as a painter remains arguable, that of his photography can hardly be questioned. The range is enormous: some of the best portraits of the Twenties (or



The regionalist realism of Pollock's "Going West"

the Fifties; for that matter) rub shoulders with wonderfully funny and erotic abstractions. Poles from the cameras, high fashion photography for *Vogue* and splendidly cool and clear-eyed townscapes of still-lives.

In view of Man Ray's happy and total acceptance of the twentieth century in his work (not that it has ever been all that easy to reject), it would not be surprising if he turned up somewhere in the magnificent show Léger et l'esprit moderne, 1918-1931, at the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, until June 6. On the other hand, so much from so many sources is packed in that it is not at all surprising he does not. The theme, as the title indicates, is the response of the arts during the Twenties to the idea of modernity, to capturing the essence of the twentieth century. Many of the artists represented clearly agreed with the rather earlier Futurists that speed was central: over and over there are images of trains and boats and planes streaking in, dazzling, carelessly, impersonal splendour across a world suddenly grown small. Again, the impersonality of the machine, so worshipped by the Futurists, is omnipresent: humans in motion (often playing tennis, sport par excellence of the era) are often reduced to finely efficient machines; humans at rest become robots, all personality eliminated in the interests of monumental simplicity.

Léger is perhaps fairly singled out as the type-figure of all this,

but in the show he does not bulk significantly larger than anyone else. And in detail one tends to notice others more, if only because of their unfamiliarity: Poles from Polish collections and Swedes from Swedish collections are certainly more exotic than the admirable but familiar Ecole de Paris. It is no doubt fortunate since the show moves on immediately to Houston, Texas, that Americans such as Demuth and Sheeler look so good in the company of their European contemporaries and peers. But, finally, the show is much more than the sum of its parts: it is hard to imagine one aspect of the Twenties more accurately and comprehensively mirrored.

Impressive as this is, there is undeniably a certain relief to be felt in adjourning to an artist of the same period who was so thoroughly human and sensuous in his approach as Pascin. The show at the recently refurbished Salle St Jean in the Hôtel de Ville, a very pleasing addition to the exhibition spaces of Paris, until May 16, shows off to the full his total love of women, both as a man and as a painter. He never seems to tire of their shapes and attitudes, and one can well believe what the (for once admirably informative) audio-visual tells us about his technique of sitting around talking with his models for hours until they were totally relaxed and natural, then painting them very quickly and surely. He certainly enjoyed a touch of low life too and there are some very jolly brothel scenes as well as a lot of stocking-tops and

skirts up around the waist and smiling provocation. But somehow he is always the artist first. And, lord knows, he could paint. Though he was, it seems, obsessed with the idea of suicide long before he actually did it (in 1930), the whole show seems to radiate *luxa, calma et volupte*.

In his twenties Varlin knew Pascin. But he lived on until 1977, working constantly, in almost complete isolation and obscurity — sometimes in Britain, as some vivid landscapes of drab urban streets bear witness. He has now been rediscovered in a show which, over the last month, spread over three galleries in the Rue des Beaux Arts, those of Claude Bernard and Albert Loeb. The show is now gone, but I make no apology for writing about it, since the effect was so extraordinary we have certainly not heard the last of Varlin. Completely outside fashion (except for a momentary coincidence with the British "kitchen sink" school), he made his own world from details of street and domestic life, painted with almost expressionist emotional abandon. His babies have all the primeval savagery one can sometimes see peeping out of a cute cat; and I think I shall remember for ever a large, turbulent painting of a grey mattress and pillow rearing dangerously across the canvas like some imperfectly domesticated beast. How a painter of this quality can have remained unknown is one of the major mysteries of modern art.

John Russell Taylor

Dance  
Model of character

Sleeping Beauty  
Coliseum

London Festival Ballet opened its summer season at the Coliseum on Tuesday with a performance of Rudolf Nureyev's sombre and magnificent production of *Sleeping Beauty*. First given by Festival Ballet in 1975, it still provides a real test for the strength of the company, both soloists and ensemble.

Tuesday night's Aurora won through with flying colours. Patricia Ruanne is now the company's senior classical ballerina and one of the many pleasures of watching her interpretation is to see just how carefully and in what detail she builds up the role.

In each act she brings out a different aspect of the character: youthful freshness in Act I, a warm romanticism in the vision scene, and mature grandeur for the last act *pas de deux*. Much of her interpretation is based on that of Fonteyn in the same role, and no English dancer could have a better model.

I especially liked the way in which the balances in the *Rose Adagio* were made part of the dance, rather than a circus trick, as is so often the case nowadays. Only some tension in her neck and shoulders marred what was otherwise a performance of a real quality, though the tempo for her variation in the vision scene was so slow that it destroyed the flow of the choreography and the music.

Born and trained in Sweden, Jonas Kage is now a member of the Zurich Ballet, though he has been an occasional guest with Festival Ballet for some years. Tall, good-looking and dazlingly blonde, he makes an excellent foil for Ruanne and is a good and very responsive partner.

On the whole he copes well with the intricate variations Nureyev has made for the hero, though it has to be said he looks his best in the traditional choreography of Act III, where his fine bearing and line are shown to advantage.

Jay Jolley and Andria Hall shone in the *Jewels pas de deux* in both their *pas de deux* roles, and Hall won the honours in the prologue divertissement. But on the whole the dancing of the rest of the cast was below the standard the company usually will doubtless see them back on form again.

Judith Cruickshank

Television

Humour and heart

Anyone who wants can make films these days, and in a year or two there will be virtually no barrier to those films being shown on television. Since the BBC's role will increasingly be to act as a repository of quality, its sponsorship of the competition for The Mick Burke Award (BBC 2) is highly appropriate. Six teams of amateurs were lent the equipment to film expeditions in six different wildernesses; last night we saw the results of three, and tonight we shall see the others.

First we went on foot through Alaska with a group of boys from the Grampian

region. Eskimos, they found, were "very warm people" toasting each other in blankets and gorging themselves on blubber. It was very much a boy's film, gassing voles, hiding squirrels on the head and dwelling with excited horror on appalling food, mosquito invasions and epicly blistered feet. The desolate tundra horizon receded rather jerkily at times but as one of the judges rightly observed, the film had humour and heart.

A group from Durham University went to the Great Sandy Desert of Western Australia, driving up and down sand dunes, mending punctures, and drinking water through green scum. The whole thing seemed quite hellish, but it was rendered down into the bored and wooden language of a laboratory experiment.

The third expedition, by dugout through the swamps of Botswana, was so beguiling at every moment that one tended to forget what it was the intrepid explorers were looking for. When finally sighted, the red letches deer seemed worth the trip, but nothing could compare with the incidental marvel captured after a three-day vigil, of a pair of eagles delicately plucking fish from the water by their claws. The commentary was sure-footed, the camera where it should always be, in the hands of an aesthete.

Shot to pieces and confined to a wheelchair, a former Marine named Bob Muller made a memorably angry appearance in a documentary some twelve months ago. Last night he was back, but with tears of contrition in his



"Going Back": the child born with one hand

eyes. Whereas in *Heroes* (ATV, produced by David Munro) he had been railing at the American government's ingratitude towards those who had fought in Vietnam, in *Going Back* (Central, same producer) he and three colleagues revisited the country they had laboured so mightily to destroy and whose destruction, through America's economic blockade, still proceeds apace.

For Muller the visit was a shattering experience. On day one, he kept wanting to shoot people in the old enemy uniform. "I'm having

a nervous breakdown, my nerves are shot," he suddenly shouted during dinner on day four. After six days of smiling faces, loving arms, and the sight of oceans of smiling children caused by American bombs and defoliants, he and his friends were as though reborn. "I've had a rage inside of me," said one, repeatedly. "Today I felt my mind turn around. 'You're in Ha Noi today, buddy,' said another. 'Today you felt a little something. Right, go back to America and put it in the political process.' Right on."

Michael Church

Theatre

Britain's theatre of the disabled, the Graeae Company, have built their new performance on such lines. 3D as the production is called, starts discreetly as Yvonne Allen and Ellen Wilkie roll on in their wheelchairs and jag wheels on their disabilities. They explain their disabilities by beginning with the circumstances of their births and Miss Allen makes a sardonic point of the moment when she was prescribed thalidomide to her mother, saving her bile for her descriptions of the later examinations when people tried to avoid their responsibility.

Eiane Roberts also makes a discreet entrance, only slowly revealing her blindness

through her narrative, and it is left to Denis Bulli to swirl on in camp flamboyance, indicating that he has to create a splash since he is only partially sighted and cannot make eye contact. Nic Fine has directed the company to bring out their natural good humour and general optimism, revealed in such moments as Mr Plah's declaration about his spastic speech: "I bet when I first opened my mouth, you thought 'oh, no' and his understanding that he could not understand himself on television. The remarkable thing about the performance is the way it reveals the intimate aspects of the private lives.

Ned Chaillet

RPO/Masur

Festival Hall/Radio 3

Off to Mexico on tour today, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra took leave of London on Tuesday with a concert under Kurt Masur, a conductor of the German classics and romantics have won him greatest respect. Here he obliged with an infinitely vivid account of Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream* overture, the breadth of full orchestra sound magically warm and lovely for the royalty and the lovers, with apt contrast for the "mechanicals" and for Puck and his like.

His symphony for the evening was Shostakovich's youthful elegiac first — such was the effect of the reading, in spite of spry, no-nonsense pace and accentuation in the quick music. Behind the high-spirited mockery of the brilliant young Bolshoi, there could already be discerned the Slav melancholy which Shostakovich took over from Tchaikovsky, and which obsessed his later works — though there are still jokes of sort in his gloomy last symphony.

After the interval Masur returned to home territory for Brahms's second piano concerto. He expounded its four spacious, wide-ranging movements to sedulous admiration, the contrasts bold and yet all of a piece, the formal contours graphically moulded.

It was a sturdy, comprehensive basis for a serious account of the solo piano part, appropriate to the Brahms symphony as concerto, perhaps Brahms's modern equivalent of the older *sinfonia concertante* (he was keenest connoisseur of earlier music).

The soloist here was Cecile Ousset, who has recorded the work with Masur and his Leipzig orchestra. Conductor and pianist collaborated positively, though for all her big romantic piano technique her forte tone is harder and brighter than suits Brahms's piano-writing at its most outgoing (nearer to Rubinstein, one might say, that to Arrau), and in light, virtuosic music she was tempted to skate upon the surface of the myriad notes.

Her musical sensibility and exquisite command of nuance and colour in soft music repaid handsome rewards in the slow movement. (David Strangely played the cello solo coolly at first, leaving full eloquence for the reprise, a play which Brahms would have applauded), and often in the finale, indeed elsewhere.

Concerts

The performance, as a collaboration, was at full scale and enjoyable. The imperfections in Miss Ousset's playing will surely be conquered, even now largely condoned in a pianist so devoted and so personable to watch at work on the concert platform.

William Mann

Roth Quartet

Wigmore Hall

Somebody sitting nearby observed to his neighbour at Tuesday night's concert that Haydn's string quartets went in one ear and out the other so far as he was concerned, and I thought that must occasion some blank moments if he went to many quartet concerts. Especially with a work like the G major Quartet, Op 54 No 1, the first of the set Haydn wrote for the violinist Johann Tost; although the performance as

I heard it here was more than somewhat bland, as if the youthful members of the Roth Quartet were more concerned with cordiality than character.

They are, I believe, a relatively new ensemble who have arrived in the wake of the remarkably fine recent crop of string quartet groups in Britain. Information about their background was sparse at this first London engagement, apart from the fact that they were all students of Nicholas Roth, from whom they take their collective name. But it would seem that they have not performed in public together for more than a year or two. If that is the case there is still time for them to acquire a musical personality in performance that is more than the sum of their individual talents.

Their capacities were taxed by the demands of the Quartet No 4 by Shostakovich, of which the first movement should convey a more sustained intensity within its brief span, so as, not to sound like an intro-

duction alone, as it did here, though not to the degree that took the slow movement to another extreme and gave its passionate climax a touch of unwanted hysteria.

The dance of despair in the finale, brought about by his overly Jewish theme and the earnest compassionate feelings at the time (1949), suggested what the players could achieve in the way of pointed rhythms and fervent ensemble declamation.

With the B flat Quartet, Op 67, by Brahms the performance came together in time for the second movement Andante, bringing a sweetly drawn line from Duncan Riddell's first violin, which had the best of the melody. The following Agitato movement aroused admiration yet again for the ingenuity with which the viola, well played here by Elizabeth Turnbull, is given the leading role not only by having the other instruments muted but by the skilful writing in practically every bar.

Noël Goodwin

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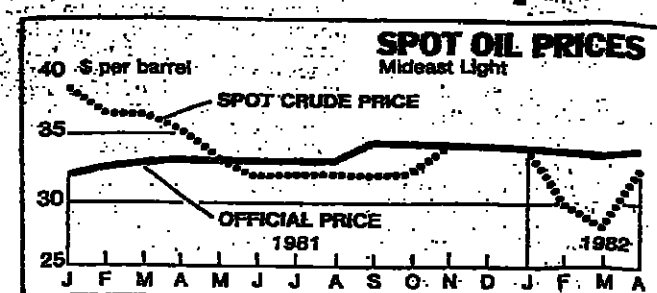
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|  |  | 2040/41 |  |  |  | 2041/42 |  |  |  | 2042/43 |  |  |  | 2043/44 |  |  |  | 2044/45 |  |  |  | 2045/46 |  |  |  | 2046/47 |  |  |  | 2047/48 |  |  |  | 2048/49 |  |  |  | 2049/50 |  |  |  | 2050/51 |  |  |  | 2051/52 |  |  |  | 2052/53 |  |  |  | 2053/54 |  |  |  | 2054/55 |  |  |  | 2055/56 |  |  |  | 2056/57 |  |  |  | 2057/58 |  |  |  | 2058/59 |  |  |  | 2059/60 |  |  |  | 2060/61 |  |  |  | 2061/62 |  |  |  | 2062/63 |  |  |  | 2063/64 |  |  |  | 2064/65 |  |  |  | 2065/66 |  |  |  | 2066/67 |  |  |  | 2067/68 |  |  |  | 2068/69 |  |  |  | 2069/70 |  |  |  | 2070/71 |  |  |  | 2071/72 |  |  |  | 2072/73 |  |  |  | 2073/74 |  |  |  | 2074/75 |  |  |  | 2075/76 |  |  |  | 2076/77 |  |  |  | 2077/78 |  |  |  | 2078/79 |  |  |  | 2079/80 |  |  |  | 2080/81 |  |  |  | 2081/82 |  |  |  | 2082/83 |  |  |  | 2083/84 |  |  |  | 2084/85 |  |  |  | 2085/86 |  |  |  | 2086/87 |  |  |  | 2087/88 |  |  |  | 2088/89 |  |  |  | 2089/90 |  |  |  | 2090/91 |  |  |  | 2091/92 |  |  |  | 2092/93 |  |  |  | 2093/94 |  |  |  | 2094/95 |  |  |  | 2095/96 |  |  |  | 2096/97 |  |  |  | 2097/98 |  |  |  | 2098/99 |  |  |  | 2099/00 |  |  |  | 2100/01 |  |  |  | 2101/02 |  |  |  | 2102/03 |  |  |  | 2103/04 |  |  |  | 2104/05 |  |  |  | 2105/06 |  |  |  | 2106/07 |  |  |  | 2107/08 |  |  |  | 2108/09 |  |  |  | 2109/10 |  |  |  | 2110/11 |  |  |  | 2111/12 |  |  |  | 2112/13 |  |  |  | 2113/14 |  |  |  | 2114/15 |  |  |  | 2115/16 |  |  |  | 2116/17 |  |  |  | 2117/18 |  |  |  | 2118/19 |  |  |  | 2119/20 |  |  |  | 2120/21 |  |  |  | 2121/22 |  |  |  | 2122/23 |  |  |  | 2123/24 |  |  |  | 2124/25 |  |  |  | 2125/26 |  |  |  | 2126/27 |  |  |  | 2127/28 |  |  |  | 2128/29 |  |  |  | 2129/30 |  |  |  | 2130/31 |  |  |  | 2131/32 |  |  |  | 2132/33 |  |  |  | 2133/34 |  |  |  | 2134/35 |  |  |  | 2135/36 |  |  |  | 2136/37 |  |  |  | 2137/38 |  |  |  | 2138/39 |  |  |  | 2139/40 |  |  |  | 2140/41 |  |  |  | 2141/42 |  |  |  | 2142/43 |  |  |  | 2143/44 |  |  |  | 2144/45 |  |  |  | 2145/46 |  |  |  | 2146/47 |  |  |  | 2147/48 |  |  |  | 2148/49 |  |  |  | 2149/50 |  |  |  | 2150/51 |  |  |  | 2151/52 |  |  |  | 2152/53 |  |  |  | 2153/54 |  |  |  | 2154/55 |  |  |  | 2155/56 |  |  |  | 2156/57 |  |  |  | 2157/58 |  |  |  | 2158/59 |  |  |  | 2159/60 |  |  |  | 2160/61 |  |  |  | 2161/62 |  |  |  | 2162/63 |  |  |  | 2163/64 |  |  |  | 2164/65 |  |  |  | 2165/66 |  |  |  | 2166/67 |  |  |  | 2167/68 |  |  |  | 2168/69 |  |  |  | 2169/70 |  |  |  | 2170/71 |  |  |  | 2171/72 |  |  |  | 2172/73 |  |  |  | 2173/74 |  |  |  | 2174/75 |  |  |  | 2175/76 |  |  |  | 2176/77 |  |  |  | 2177/78 |  |  |  | 2178/79 |  |  |  | 2179/80 |  |  |  | 2180/81 |  |  |  | 2181/82 |  |  |  | 2182/83 |  |  |  | 2183/84 |  |  |  | 2184/85 |  |  |  | 2185/86 |  |  |  | 2186/87 |  |  |  | 2187/88 |  |  |  | 2188/89 |  |  |  | 2189/90 |  |  |  | 2190/91 |  |  |  | 2191/92 |  |  |  | 2192/93 |  |  |  | 2193/94 |  |  |  | 2194/95 |  |  |  | 2195/96 |  |  |  | 2196/97 |  |  |  | 2197/98 |  |  |  | 2198/99 |  |  |  | 2199/00 |  |  |  | 2200/01 |  |  |  | 2201/02 |  |  |  | 2202/03 |  |  |  | 2203/04 |  |  |  | 2204/05 |  |  |  | 2205/06 |  |  |  | 2206/07 |  |  |  | 2207/08 |  |  |  | 2208/09 |  |  |  | 2209/10 |  |  |  | 2210/11 |  |  |  | 2211/12 |  |  |  | 2212/13 |  |  |  | 2213/14 |  |  |  | 2214/15 |  |  |  | 2215/16 |  |  |  | 2216/17 |  |  |  | 2217/18 |  |  |  | 2218/19 |  |  |  | 2219/20 |  |  |  | 2220/21 |  |  |  | 2221/22 |  |  |  | 2222/23 |  |  |  | 2223/24 |  |  |  | 2224/25 |  |  |  | 2225/26 |  |  |  | 2226/27 |  |  |  | 2227/28 |  |  |  | 2228/29 |  |  |  | 2229/30 |  |  |  | 2230/31 |  |  |  | 2231/32 |  |  |  | 2232/33 |  |  |  | 2233/34 |  |  |  | 2234/35 |  |  |  | 2235/36 |  |  |  | 2236/37 |  |  |  | 2237/38 |  |  |  | 2238/39 |  |  |  | 2239/40 |  |  |  | 2240/41 |  |  |  | 2241/42 |  |  |  | 2242/43 |  |  |  | 2243/44 |  |  |  | 2244/45 |  |  |  | 2245/46 |  |  |  | 2246/47 |  |  |  | 2247/48 |  |  |  | 2248/49 |  |  |  | 2249/50 |  |  |  | 2250/51 |  |  |  | 2251/52 |  |  |  | 2252/53 |  |  |  | 2253/54 |  |  |  | 2254/55 |  |  |  | 2255/56 |  |  |  | 2256/57 |  |  |  | 2257/58 |  |  |  | 2258/59 |  |  |  | 2259/60 |  |  |  | 2260/61 |  |  |  | 2261/62 |  |  |  | 2262/63 |  |  |  | 2263/64 |  |  |  | 2264/65 |  |  |  | 2265/66 |  |  |  | 2266/67 |  |  |  | 2267/68 |  |  |  | 2268/69 |  |  |  | 2269/70 |  |  |  | 2270/71 |  |  |  | 2271/72 |  |  |  | 2272/73 |  |  |  | 2273/74 |  |  |  | 2274/75 |  |  |  | 2275/76 |  |  |  | 2276/77 |  |  |  | 2277/78 |  |  |  | 2278/79 |  |  |  | 2279/80 |  |  |  | 2280/81 |  |  |  | 2281/82 |  |  |  | 2282/83 |  |  |  | 2283/84 |  |  |  | 2284/85 |  |  |  | 2285/86 |  |  |  | 2286/87 |  |  |  | 2287/88 |  |  |  | 2288/89 |  |  |  | 2289/90 |  |  |  | 2290/91 |  |  |  | 2291/92 |  |  |  | 2292/93 |  |  |  | 2293/94 |  |  |  | 2294/95 |  |  |  | 2295/96 |  |  |  | 2296/97 |  |  |  | 2297/98 |  |  |  | 2298/99 |  |  |  | 2299/00 |  |  |  | 2300/01 |  |  |  | 2301/02 |  |  |  | 2302/03 |  |  |  | 2303/04 |  |  |  | 2304/05 |  |  |  | 2305/06 |  |  |  | 2306/07 |  |  |  | 2307/08 |  |  |  | 2308/09 |  |  |  | 2309/10 |  |  |  | 2310/11 |  |  |  | 2311/12 |  |  |  | 2312/13 |  |  |  | 2313/14 |  |  |  | 2314/15 |  |  |  | 2315/16 |  |  |  | 2316/17 |  |  |  | 2317/18 |  |  |  | 2318/19 |  |  |  | 2319/20 |  |  |  | 2320/21 |  |  |  | 2321/22 |  |  |  | 2322/23 |  |  |  | 2323/24 |  |  |  | 2324/25 |  |  |  | 2325/26 |  |  |  | 2326/27 |  |  |  | 2327/28 |  |  |  | 2328/29 |  |  |  | 2329/30 |  |  |  | 2330/31 |  |  |  | 2331/32 |  |  |  | 2332/33 |  |  |  | 2333/34 |  |  |  | 2334/35 |  |  |  | 2335/36 |  |  |  | 2336/37 |  |  |  | 2337/38 |  |  |  | 2338/39 |  |  |  | 2339/40 |  |  |  | 2340/41 |  |  |  | 2341/42 |  |  |  | 2342/43 |  |  |  | 2343/44 |  |  |  | 2344/45 |  |  |  | 2345/46 |  |  |  | 2346/47 |  |  |  | 2347/48 |  |  |  | 2348/49 |  |  |  | 2349/50 |  |  |  | 2350/51 |  |  |  | 2351/52 |  |  |  | 2352/53 |  |  |  | 2353/54 |  |  |  | 2354/55 |  |  |  | 2355/56 |  |  |  | 2356/57 |  |  |  | 2357/58 |  |  |  | 2358/59 |  |  |  | 2359/60 |  |  |  | 2360/61 |  |  |  | 2361/62 |  |  |  | 2362/63 |  |  |  | 2363/64 |  |  |  | 2364/65 |  |  |  | 2365/66 |  |  |  | 2366/67 |  |  |  | 2367/68 |  |  |  | 2368/69 |  |  |  | 2369/70 |  |  |  | 2370/71 |  |  |  | 2371/72 |  |  |  | 2372/73 |  |  |  | 2373/74 |  |  |  | 2374/75 |  |  |  | 2375/76 |  |  |  | 2376/77 |  |  |  | 2377/78 |  |  |  | 2378/79 |  |  |  | 2379/80 |  |  |  | 2380/81 |  |  |  | 2381/82 |  |  |  | 2382/83 |  |  |  | 2383/84 |  |  |  | 2384/85 |  |  |  | 2385/86 |  |  |  | 2386/87 |  |  |  | 2387/88 |  |  |  | 2388/89 |  |  |  | 2389/90 |  |  |  | 2390/91 |  |  |  | 2391/92 |  |  |  | 2392/93 |  |  |  | 2393/94 |  |  |  | 2394/95 |  |  |  | 2395/96 |  |  |  | 2396/97 |  |  |  | 2397/98 |  |  |  | 2398/99 |  |  |  | 2399/00 |  |  |  | 2400/01 |  |  |  | 2401/02 |  |  |  | 2402/03 |  |  |  | 2403/04 |  |  |  | 2404/05 |  |  |  | 2405/06 |  |  |  | 2406/07 |  |  |  | 2407/08 |  |  |  | 2408/09 |  |  |  | 2409/10 |  |  |  | 2410/11 |  |  |  | 2411/12 |  |  |  | 2412/13 |  |  |  | 2413/14 |  |  |  | 2414/15 |  |  |  | 2415/16 |  |  |  | 2416/17 |  |  |  | 2417/18 |  |  |  | 2418/19 |  |  |  | 2419/20 |  |  |  | 2420/21 |  |  |  | 2421/22 |  |  |  | 2422/23 |  |  |  | 2423/24 |  |  |  | 2424/25 |  |  |  | 2425/26 |  |  |  | 2426/27 |  |  |  | 2427/28 |  |  |  | 2428/29 |  |  |  | 2429/30 |  |  |  | 2430/31 |  |  |  | 2431/32 |  |  |  | 2432/33 |  |  |  | 2433/34 |  |  |  | 2434/35 |  |  |  | 2435/36 |  |  |  | 2436/37 |  |  |  | 2437/38 |  |  |  | 2438/39 |  |  |  | 2439/40 |  |  |  | 2440/41 |  |  |  | 2441/42 |  |  |  | 2442/43 |  |  |  | 2443/44 |  |  |  | 2444/45 |  |  |  | 2445/46 |  |  |  | 2446/47 |  |  |  | 2447/48 |  |  |  | 2448/49 |  |  |  | 2449/50 |  |  |  | 2450/51 |  |  |  | 2451/52 |  |  |  | 2452/53 |  |  |  | 2453/54 |  |  |  | 2454/55 |  |  |  | 2455/56 |  |  |  | 2456/57 |  |  |  | 2457/58 |  |  |  | 2458/59 |  |  |  | 2459/60 |  |  |  | 2460/61 |  |  |  | 2461/62 |  |  |  | 2462/63 |  |  |  | 2463/64 |  |  |  | 2464/65 |  |  |  | 2465/66 |  |  |  | 2466/67 |  |  |  | 2467/68 |  |  |  | 2468/69 |  |  |  | 2469/70 |  |  |  | 2470/71 |  |  |  | 2471/72 |  |  |  | 2472/73 |  |  |  | 2473/74 |  |  |  | 2474/75 |  |  |  | 2475/76 |  |  |  | 2476/77 |  |  |  | 2477/78 |  |  |  | 2478/79 |  |  |  | 2479/80 |  |  |  | 2480/81 |  |  |  | 2481/82 |  |  |  | 2482/83 |  |  |  | 2483/84 |  |  |  | 2484/85 |  |  |  | 2485/86 |  |  |  | 2486/87 |  |  |  | 2487/88 |  |  |  | 2488/89 |  |  |  | 2489/90 |  |  |  | 2490/91 |  |  |  | 2491/92 |  |  |  | 2492/93 |  |  |  | 2493/94 |  |  |  | 2494/95 |  |  |  | 2495/96 |  |  |  | 2496/97 |  |  |  | 2497/98 |  |  |  | 2498/99 |  |  |  | 2499/00 |  |  |  | 2500/01 |  |  |  | 2501/02 |  |  |  | 2502/03 |  |  |  | 2503/04 |  |  |  | 2504/05 |  |  |  | 2505/06 |  |  |  | 2506/07 |  |  |  | 2507/08 |  |  |  | 2508/09 |  |  |  | 2509/10 |  |  |  | 2510/11 |  |  |  | 2511/12 |  |  |  | 2512/13 |  |  |  | 2513/14 |  |  |  | 2514/15 |  |  |  | 2515/16 |  |  |  | 2516/17 |  |  |  | 2517/18 |  |  |  | 2518/19 |  |  |  | 2519/20 |  |  |  | 2520/21 |  |  |  | 2521/22 |  |  |  | 2522/23 |  |  |  | 2523/24 |  |  |  | 2524/25 |  |  |  | 2525/26 |  |  |  | 2526/27 |  |  |  | 2527/28 |  |  |  | 2528/29 |  |  |  | 2529/30 |  |  |  | 2530/31 |  |  |  | 2531/32 |  |  |  | 2532/33 |  |  |  | 2533/34 |  |  |  | 2534/35 |  |  |  | 2535/36 |  |  |  | 2536/37 |  |  |  | 2537/38 |  |  |  | 2538/39 |  |  |  | 2539/40 |  |  |  | 2540/41 |  |  |  | 2541/42 |  |  |  | 2542/43 |  |  |  | 2543/44 |  |  |  | 2544/45 |  |  |  | 2545/46 |  |  |  | 2546/47 |  |  |  | 2547/48 |  |  |  | 2548/49 |  |  |  | 2549/50 |  |  |  | 2550/51 |  |  |  | 2551/52 |  |  |  | 2552/53 |  |  |  | 2553/54 |  |  |  | 2554/55 |  |  |  | 2555/56 |  |  |  | 2556/57 |  |  |  | 2557/58 |  |  |  | 2558/59 |  |  |  | 2559/60 |  |  |  | 2560/61 |  |  |  | 2561/62 |  |  |  | 2562/63 |  |  |  | 2563/64 |  |  |  | 2564/65 |  |  |  | 2565/66 |  |  |  | 2566/67 |  |  |  | 2567/68 |  |  |  | 2568/69 |  |  |  | 2569/70 |  |  |  | 2570/71 |  |  |  | 2571/72 |  |  |  | 2572/73 |  |  |  | 2573/74 |  |  |  | 2574/75 |  |  |  | 2575/76 |  |  |  | 2576/77 |  |  |  | 2577/78 |  |  |  | 2578/79 |  |  |  | 2579/80 |  |  |  | 2580/81 |  |  |  | 2581/82 |  |  |  | 2582/83 |  |  |  | 2583/84 |  |  |  | 2584/85 |  |  |  | 2585/86 |  |  |  | 2586/87 |  |  |  | 2587/88 |  |  |  | 2588/89 |  |  |  | 2589/90 |  |  |  | 2590/91 |  |  |  | 2591/92 |  |  |  | 2592/93 |  |  |  | 2593/94 |  |  |  | 2594/95 |  |  |  | 2595/96 |  |  |  | 2596/97 |  |  |  | 2597/98 |  |  |  | 2598/99 |  |  |  | 2599/00 |  |  |  | 2600/01 |  |  |  | 2601/02 |  |  |  | 2602/03 |  |  |  | 2603/04 |  |  |  | 2604/05 |  |  |  | 2605/06 |  |  |  | 2606/07 |  |  |  | 2607/08 |  |  |  | 2608/09 |  |  |  | 2609/10 |  |  |  | 2610/11 |  |  |  | 2611/12 |  |  |  | 2612/13 |  |  |  | 2613/14 |  |  |  | 2614/15 |  |  |  | 2615/16 |  |  |  | 2616/17 |  |  |  | 2617/18 |  |  |  | 2618/19 |  |  |  | 2619/20 |  |  |  | 2620/21 |  |  |  | 2621/22 |  |  |  | 2622/23 |  |  |  | 2623/24 |  |  |  | 2624/25 |  |  |  | 2625/26 |  |  |  | 2626/27 |  |  |  | 2627/28 |  |  |  | 2628/29 |  |  |  | 2629/30 |  |  |  | 2630/31 |  |  |  | 2631/32 |  |  |  | 2632/33 |  |  |  | 2633/34 |  |  |  | 2634/35 |  |  |  | 2635/36 |  |  |  | 2636/37 |  |  |  | 2637/38 |  |  |  | 2638/39 |  |  |  | 2639/40 |  |  |  | 2640/41 |  |  |  | 2641/42 |  |  |  | 2642/43 |  |  |  | 2643/44 |  |  |  | 2644/45 |  |  |  | 2645/46 |  |  |  | 2646/47 |  |  |  | 2647/48 |  |  |  | 2648/49 |  |  |  | 2649/50 |  |  |  | 2650/51 |  |  |  | 2651/52 |  |  |  | 2652/53 |  |  |  | 2653/54 |  |  |  | 2654/55 |  |  |  | 2655/56 |  |  |  | 2656/57 |  |  |  | 2657/58 |  |  |  | 2658/59 |  |  |  | 2659/60 |  |  |  | 2660/61 |  |  |  | 2661/62 |  |  |  | 2662/63 |  |  |  | 2663/64 |  |  |  | 2664/65 |  |  |  | 2665/66 |  |  |  | 2666/67 |  |  |  | 2667/68 |  |  |  | 2668/69 |  |  |  | 2669/70 |  | 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## BUSINESS NEWS

## Market cheers Opec



To the satisfaction of leaders of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, prices of oil on the "spot" market have risen significantly in the past few weeks. Cargoes of Arabian light crude oil have risen from \$28 a barrel to \$32.50 a barrel since last month, although this is still below the official contract price of \$34 a barrel. North Sea oil has also risen on the spot market, from below \$30 a barrel to \$35 a barrel — which is \$4 a barrel above the official price. The rise reflects Opec's production cuts and the political situation in the Middle East.

## City editor to step down

Mr Patrick Sergeant, city editor of the *Daily Mail* for more than 22 years is planning to leave his post but will continue to write for the paper. Mr Sergeant is the highest paid director of Associated Newspapers, earning £256,000 last year. No decision has been taken on a successor although Mr Kenneth Fleet, city editor of the *Sunday Express*, is believed to have been involved in talks.

## Oilfields 'will go ahead'

Development of the "T Block" complex of North Sea fields postponed because of falling oil prices and high North Sea taxes, will go ahead eventually, Mr Hector Watts, managing director of Lamsco, a partner in the field, said yesterday. "There is no doubt it is going to be developed, but what we are talking about is the timing," he added. Phillips Petroleum, the field operator, has cancelled initial design contracts and is studying cheaper production methods.

## Construction orders decline

New construction orders fell by a further 4 per cent in the three months to February 1982 compared with the same period last year, the Department of the Environment said yesterday. The level was unchanged in comparison with the previous quarter's figures. The largest fall in new orders came from the public works sector which dipped 21 per cent while public housing rose by 78 per cent over the same period of a year ago.

## Waiver move

Sketchley, bidding for Means Services, the United States rental business, has waived that its \$33 (£18.75) a share offer be conditional on Means tendering no less than 50.4 per cent of its shares due to the counter offer at \$37 from ARA Services.

## MARKET SUMMARY

## BAT shares leap 37p

## LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 575.3 up 5.1.  
FT 100s 67.70 down 0.02.  
FT All Share 329.39 up 1.51.  
Bargains 15,267.

BAT, the tobacco dealers, brought a ray of sunshine to the stock market when it unveiled profits well above the most optimistic forecasts up 43 per cent at £88m, with the shares leaping 37p to 460p.

Elsewhere a healthy crop of trading news lifted the FT index to a 5.1 rise to 575.3 its highest level since early February, with the weight of institutional funds set to go into the equity market continuing to mount.

To bin and nervous trading condition besetting equities continues to be a feature of the gilt market as well where the strength of sterling saw modest gains of up to 5 pence across the board. The Blue Circle produced final profits falling somewhat short of expectations but it failed to effect the shares, up 6p at 468p. Ahead of trading news today ICI put on 2p at 322p while Marks & Spencer gained 3p at 161p.

WH Smith celebrated a 31 per cent profits jump with a 10p gain to 165p while laboratory supplies group Whitman Rees Angel responded to more than halved earnings leaping 35p to 293p.

The long awaited bid from S Pearson for Pearson Longman duly appeared, leaving S Pearson off 11p at 236p and Pearson Longman 1p firmer at 237p.

Prices on the International Petroleum Exchanges bounced back again yesterday. With only a few days to run, the April contract rose £11 to £307 a tonne. But May closed at £296, up £3, partially reflecting more Falkland Islands tension. Dealers also feel Opec may have been successful in restraining oil output.

Other softs were quiet, with the exception of cocoa. April added £32 to £988 as the contract began to expire. But May also rose, closing at £988 a tonne compared with £976. Amid light trade and commission house business, soyabean oil futures slipped by both \$1 and \$4.25 a tonne.

Metals did not respond to the possibility of more fighting in the South Atlantic. Copper was virtually unchanged, although it did show some movement. Cash metal was £33 higher at £7,185 a tonne and three months closed £20 up at £7,362.

## TODAY

Interims: Aberdeen Trust, A. Arson, Audio Fidelity, Ben Bailey Construction, Hoover (1st qtr), ICI (first qtr figs) S. Simpson, United Wire.

Finals: Henry Boot, BSG Intl., De Vere Hotels, Downhills, Flight Refuelling, Highcroft Inv., Holyrood Rubber, Hongkong (Selling) Rubber, Hongkong (Selling) Rubber, Kuala (Selling) Rubber, Marks and Spencer, Moss B., Office and Electronic Machines, George Wimpey, Yule Gatto.

Economic Statistics: Energy Trends.

## Threat to stability of international finance

## Argentina's debt spurs loan fears

From Bailey Morris, Washington, April 28.

As concern over Argentina's debt grows, political and economic leaders in the United States are beginning to question the unchallenged ability of large banks to make marginal loans which threaten the stability of the international lending system.

The fragility of Argentina's economy and its dependence on continued lines of credit from private banks underscores the influence on the world economy of a few, interested financial institutions, these critics contend. Some influential members of Congress, including Mr Henry Reuss, chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, want to hold hearings on the ability of banks to make large international loans to determine if a world economic crisis is developing.

If Argentina goes into default on the heels of Poland's inability to repay its debt and fears that Romania will follow, it could trigger a financial crisis of undetermined proportions, some political and economic leaders believe.

Mr Albert G Hart, Professor of Economics at Columbia University, raised this possibility in the *New York Times*.

"Not since the days of John Law has the world economy depended so heavily on new, untested and rashly managed financial institutions and practices," Mr Hart said.

He advocated new policies governing the lending practices of big banks which make huge loans to financial shaky countries such as Argentina and continue to arrange rollovers of these loans when the countries are unable to repay the debt.

"The fallibility of big bankers has been illustrated by their allowing unsustainable debts to pile up, as in Argentina, thus postponing rather than obviating the need to shape a permanently viable financial structure."

The financial practices of the big banks have come under attack for political and economic reasons.

## German banks evade limit

From Peter Norman, Bonn, April 28

A number of large West German banks have been using subsidiaries at home and abroad on an increasing scale to circumvent the strict prudential controls intended to limit a bank's overall lending to 18 times its paid up capital and open reserves.

Hitherto unpublished figures show that at the end of 1981 17 of West Germany's largest banks had lent DM54,000m (£12,980m) more than would have been possible if capital ratios were applied by law to the consolidated accounts of the parent banks and their wholly-owned and nearly wholly-owned subsidiaries.

The figures give the first insight into how the banks are getting round the spirit of official regulations and a gentleman's agreement reached last summer between the German federal bank (the Bundesbank). The banking supervisory office in West Berlin said 31 of the country's largest banks. After much arm twisting, the 31 mainly private sector banks agreed to supply the authorities with consolidated accounts each quarter from September 30 last year to enable them to see how far total lending was related to the banks' capital resources.

The consolidated figures show that at the end of 1981 17 banks had granted credits in excess of the 18 times capital and reserves available to them and the subsidiaries covered in the gentleman's agreement. Nine banks had exceeded their national credit limit by between 10 and 50 per cent.

The gentleman's agreement reflected growing concern by the West German authorities about current banking risks, particularly in international lending. The end-December figures show a worsening of the situation compared with September 30, when the banks sent their first set of figures to the authorities.

The authorities can now be expected to step up pressure for legislation to make consolidated accounts the compulsory basis for West Germany's prudential controls. At present West Germany is behind other European countries like Switzerland and Holland which have tough prudential controls on bank lending.

Bankamerica "expects to be further buffeted by the global and domestic recession," Mr Leland S Prussia, chairman, said in San Francisco at the annual meeting.

Barclays Bank spelt out its opposition to apartheid at yesterday's annual meeting in response to persistent critical questioning on the bank's involvement in South Africa. However Mr Timothy Bevan, chairman, restated the view that Barclays would do more good by staying in South Africa than by pulling out.

## Boost for invisible exports

By Our Financial Staff

The United Kingdom's invisible export earnings should be helped this year by an estimated growth of 5 to 6 per cent in the net earnings of seven leading service industries.

In its annual survey the Commission on Invisible Exports says that it also expects gross receipts from inward tourism to rise by 3 per cent in real terms. The monetary volume of world invisible trade is expected to rise in some sectors, but only in banking is the increase expected to exceed inflation.

Slight gains in the United Kingdom's share of world markets are expected in all except the aviation and shipping sectors. The overall increase in earnings for the insurance sector is put at 3 to 4 per cent, and about 5 per cent for brokers.

Among the London clearing banks the weighted average expected increase is 13 per cent. For the Accepting Houses, the figure averages 10 per cent.

The volume of overseas business won by the banks is expected to grow sharply, with North America and South East Asia seen as favoured areas for expanding loan business. British banks also expect to increase their share of international banking business.

## Savoy 'ready for' Forte takeover fight

By Philip Robinson

The Savoy Hotel group headed by Sir Hugh Wootton announced yesterday that he would be back making profits this year and was prepared to fight off any further takeover attempt by Trusthouse Forte hotel chain.

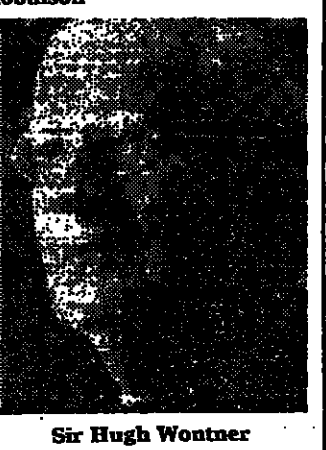
Lord Forte is free to mount a second takeover bid on June 19. That is a year after his first £67m bid failed to win control, but left his group holding 66.25 per cent of the 'A' non-voting shares.

He has vowed to return, but Mr Eric Hartwell, Trusthouse joint chief executive refused to discuss the company's plans last night.

Savoy denies that it has been in merger talks with the hotel company, but Mr Giles Sheppard, Managing director, said: "One always has to be prepared. It's an unpleasant situation when someone holds a large block of shares and makes no use of them that they want to own you."

The group points out that directors, family and friends still hold more than 50 per cent of the vital B class of voting shares.

At the time Trusthouse was bidding, the Savoy, which includes the Berkeley, Claridge's and St James's in the Strand, was making heavy losses. But in September last year as the pound



Sir Hugh Wootton

dropped in value against the dollar, American visitors began to return and Savoy says it made £1.6m pre-tax profit in 1981.

On total income, up £2m to £30m for the 12 months to the end of last December, Savoy cut its pre-tax loss from £1.7m to £504,000. The £7m it received from Lord Forte by selling it the east block for flats and offices has been used to clean the balance sheet and should cut debt charges in the current year by £1m. Last year interest charges rose from £1.2m to £1.3m.

Savoy is paying an unchanged gross dividend on the B shares of 0.8207p and on A of 1.6414p.

## Manufacturing suffers worst effect of recession

## Two million jobs lost since 1979

By Frances Williams

More than two million jobs have been lost in British industry since the recession began in mid-1979, according to latest official figures.

Three-fifths of the jobs lost were in manufacturing, although this sector accounts for only a quarter of total employment.

But the fall in employment has not been fully reflected in higher registered unemployment, which went up by 1½ million over the same period — some ½ million less. Many workers, especially married women who do not qualify for unemployment benefit, have simply not bothered to sign on.

The Department of Employment's *Gazette*, published yesterday, reveals that total employment fell by 9 per cent between June 1979 and December 1981 from 22.4 million to 20.3 million.

Jobs in manufacturing fell by 18½ per cent or 1.3 million. The service sector, after 10 years of almost continuous growth, lost 500,000 jobs — about 4 per cent — over the two years to end-1981.

The number of people in employment in Britain is now at its lowest since 1952, despite a big increase in the population of working age.

The figures do, however, show that industry is shedding jobs at a slower rate. Total employment fell by 193,000 in the final quarter of 1981, after seasonal adjustment, a little more than the 184,000 drop in the third quarter, but well below the falls of 300,000 in each of the two previous quarters.

In the manufacturing sector, for which more recent figures are available, employment fell by a seasonally

adjusted 9,000 in February, less than a third the average monthly fall of 30,000 in the sector since 1981. This represented a substantial deceleration from job losses of 51,000 a month in the first half of 1981 and 74,000 a month in the final six months of 1980.

Hours worked in industry, by way of extra overtime and less short time working, have risen sharply since the depths of the recession in early 1981.

According to a special article in the *Gazette*, some 3½m manual workers (out of nearly 11m — the biggest number since 1966 — also covered by national collective agreements) achieved a reduction in normal weekly hours last year, by about 1 hour on average. In February normal weekly hours averaged 39½.

## Setback for Rolls-Royce aero-engines sell-off

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent



Lord McFadzean: caution on privatization hopes

Government hopes of returning the state-owned Rolls-Royce aero-engine maker to the private sector took a further knock yesterday when the chairman Lord McFadzean told MPs the privatization depended upon the British Government matching the aid provided for the company's United States competitors.

At the same time, Lord McFadzean told the Commons Select Committee on Industry and Trade that Lockheed's decision to phase out production of the TriStar jetliner could cost the British company between £50m and £70m in lost profits by the late 1980s.

The chairman's comments on Rolls-Royce's future profitability and its potential attractiveness to private investors comes after statements to the committee in February by Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, indicating that the Government did not consider a public sale of Rolls-Royce to be feasible for the next two or three years.

Lord McFadzean said that Rolls-Royce's United States competitors, Pratt and Whitney and General Electric,

Rolls-Royce, which was taken into state ownership after its collapse 11 years ago, made a net loss of £5m in 1981 compared with a loss of £27m in 1980 and is planning to break even next year. The Government announced this week that the company would receive an additional £50m in equity capital and £57m in launch aid this year.

Yesterday, Lord McFadzean was reluctant to predict when the company would return to profitability, much depended on the state of the aircraft market and the success of the company in winning new orders. However, he was confident that the company would win business in the late 1980s from civil aircraft manufacturers as the result of the retirement of an estimated 3,000 older airliners, mostly 707s, DC8s and 737-100s.

He forecast that Rolls-Royce would be making profits by next year from sales of the RB 211-22B engine which powers the TriStar — but would require "considerable development aid" for the 524 and 535 derivatives in the next five or six years.

## Tax threat to US companies

By Lorna Bourke

American companies operating in Britain have been threatened with taxes on profits they make anywhere else in the world. This would be retaliation for similar taxes in some parts of the United States.

Mr Michael Grylls, chairman of the Conservative back-bench industry committee, is proposing measures because 13 American states impose such taxation and two more are considering similar action. He expects amendments to be made to the Finance Bill now going through Parliament.

Mr Grylls said: "Our patience is running out and there is increasing pressure to take retaliatory action."

Some 60 British companies have banded together to fight the imposition of worldwide taxation, led by BATs, Bowater and EMI. "There are a lot of people who feel very strongly and I expect amendments will be tabled in the next few weeks," Mr Grylls said.

The system has operated in five American states for more than two years and the total has now reached 13. Companies are taxed on profits made anywhere in the United States or the rest of the world. Multinationals see this as double taxation.

The most recent double-taxation treaty between Britain and the United States was ratified in March 1980 and made no provision for relief for British companies in those states which apply unitary taxation on worldwide profits.

Mr Grylls and others made known their reservations concerning this omission but were assured that negotiations were taking place with the United States to rectify the situation. Since then there has been virtually no progress.

## Harland gets £47.6m Whitehall handout

By Rupert Morris

Harland and Wolff, the loss-making Belfast shipbuilder, is to receive £47.6m of Government money in this financial year, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, announced yesterday.

The yard has received £216m in special assistance since it was nationalized in 1975. It employs nearly 7,000 people in West Belfast — an area highly sensitive to threats of job losses.

Already more than 4,500 jobs have been put in jeopardy by the financial collapse of the De Lorean car company, now in the hands of the Official Receiver.

Dr Vivian Wadsworth, Harland and Wolff chairman, has warned of up to 1,000 redundancies this year if orders do not improve dramatically.

The announcement is certain to be received with scepticism among Conservative back-benchers who are anxious to see an end to taxpayers' support of nationalized industries.

Mr Prior said yesterday in Commons answers to a question, the company will take all steps necessary to reduce its operating costs and improve efficiency. It must also demonstrate that this continued level of support is justified by increasing competitiveness so that the heavy burden on public funds can be progressively reduced."

He is to meet national trade union representatives next week, and last night Mr Alex Ferry, general secretary of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, said: "We accept that there's overcapacity in Harland and Wolff, but we will oppose any job losses."

The company's book is clearly inadequate, with a 170,000 tonne deadweight bulk carrier for British Steel, authorized by the Government, only taking the total up to five ships. The shipyard is working full time at the moment, but there has been short-time working in the engine plant in recent weeks.

Mr Michael Grylls, chairman of the Conservative back-bench industry committee, said last night: "This latest handout is not creating any more jobs and shows a lack of discipline in trying to phase out the taxpayer's commitment."

## Insider deal charges

By Our Financial Staff

A married couple were sent for trial to Croydon Crown Court by Croydon magistrates yesterday on charges under the Companies Act of 1980.

They are John William Titheridge and Joyce Titheridge of Warren Road, Sidcup. Mr Titheridge is accused of obtaining information from his wife and, knowing it to be unpublished price-sensitive information relating to the shares of Joseph Stocks

and Son, (Holdings), he bought 12,500 ordinary shares in that company.

His wife is charged with counselling or procuring her husband to deal in securities knowing or having reasonable cause to believe he would deal with them on the Stock Exchange.

This is the first prosecution of its kind brought in England under the Act although there has been one in Scotland.

## Jessel, Toynbee PLC

Bill Brokers and Bankers  
Members of the London Discount Market Association

## Preliminary Statement

The profit is stated after providing for rebate, taxation, and all expenses (and in 1981 after transfer to reserve for contingencies):

|  | 1981/82   | 1980/81     |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| Net profit   | £ 344,498 | £ 1,115,721 |
| Ordinary dividends                                 |           |             |
| Interim paid                                       | 230,824   | 230,824     |
| Final proposed                                     | 428,673   | 428,673     |
| Balance carried forward on profit and loss account | 692,014   | 1,007,013   |

The proposed final dividend is 3.25 pence per share making a total net distribution of 5.0 pence per share (1981 same).

The annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday, 9th June 1982 at 4.00 p.m.

The proposed final dividend will be paid on 10th June 1982 to all shareholders on the register at 13th May 1982.

|  | 5th April 1982 | 5th April 1981 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Capital and published reserves   | £ 5,959,497    | £ 6,304,496    |
| Loans and deposits etc.  | 263,525,347    | 264,480,361    |
|  | £269,514,844   | £270,784,857   |
| Cash at bank and amounts receivable  | 3,617,784      | 703,920        |
| British Government Treasury bills  | 1,618,070      | 29,214,289     |
| Commercial bills — sterling  | 195,751,374    | 122,058,522    |
| Sterling certificates of deposit   | 38,291,788     | 18,898,817     |
| U.S. dollar loans and deposits   | —              | 23,244,162     |
| British Government and corporation securities, local authority bonds and other investments — Listed: | 10,483,215     | 57,044,399     |
| Unlisted:  | 19,772,813     | 19,802,748     |
|  | £269,514,844   | £270,784,857   |



\* Ex div. & Astd. \* Ex distribution. & Bid. & Market closed. \* New issue. \* Stock split.  
 † Traded. ‡ Unquoted.



BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

INTERNATIONAL



JAPAN

Widening in trade surplus gap

Japan's visible trade surplus in the fiscal year 1981, ended last month, widened sharply to \$20,480m (£11,536) from a \$6,770m surplus a year earlier, the Finance Ministry said.

Exports rose 10.9 per cent to \$149,590m, while FOB imports rose 0.7 per cent to \$129,120m.

Overall balance of payments deficit in fiscal 1981 stood at \$7,360m against a \$380m deficit a year earlier. The current account balance turned into a \$3,950m surplus from a \$7,010m deficit.

Mr Douglas Fraser, United Auto Workers president, citing "horrendous" rates of unemployment among United States car workers, said yesterday in Tokyo the Japanese industry must "put jobs where their sales are". He also told the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan that General Motors' new small-model cars were a "gigantic miscalculation."

Export contracts concluded by Japan's 13 main trading companies went up a British 27.4 per cent in March from a year before, mainly because of a surge in contracts for plant shipments to oil-producing countries, the Japan Foreign Trade Council announced yesterday.

Import contracts climbed a healthy 17.3 per cent in the month.

The Tokyo Government will work out a new five-year economic and social programme for 1983-87, aiming at a lower average annual economic growth rate than the 5.1 per cent set under the present five-year programme for 1979-85.

FRANCE

The National Statistics Institute, the state-run data gathering agency, yesterday said in its monthly survey of 3,000 heads of industry in France that production had stagnated in April and had now spread to all sectors including industries producing consumer goods, which up to now had remained buoyant.

The survey said that industrialists involved in producing capital feared a slowdown in their output levels in the next few months because of flagging demand from the domestic and export markets.

Industrialised countries should create more favorable conditions for coal consumption as a cheap alternative to oil, the International Energy Agency in Paris urged yesterday after a two-year study of the industrial use of coal in the 24-member nations of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

AUSTRALIA

Australia's March level of production by the manufacturing industry was higher than that during February for 14 of the 28 key items for which seasonally adjusted figures are compiled.

Despite a fairly stagnant overall picture, the Statistics Bureau reported significant increases for raw steel (up 22 per cent to 643,000 metric tonnes), and cars (up 16.8 per cent to 35,100 units). Import decreases were in the domestic appliance group with a 11 per cent drop in down 11 per cent, refrigerators 18.5 per cent and washing machines 7.5 per cent.

A test of the Amadeus exploration well East Merene in the northern territory flowed oil at 320 barrels a day. The flow was from the 4,815 to 4,903 feet sector and the well is now preparing to drill ahead at 4,903 feet.

SWEDEN

The Swedish government has revised its 1982-83 fiscal budget deficit forecast downwards to Kr75,700m (£7,082m) from Kr82,600m shortfall projected in January. The country's net foreign borrowing is expected to account for Kr12,000m and Kr14,000m.

NETHERLANDS

The Dutch seasonally adjusted index of industrial orders in hand, base January 1978, rose to 98 in March from 97 in February, the Central Statistics Office said.

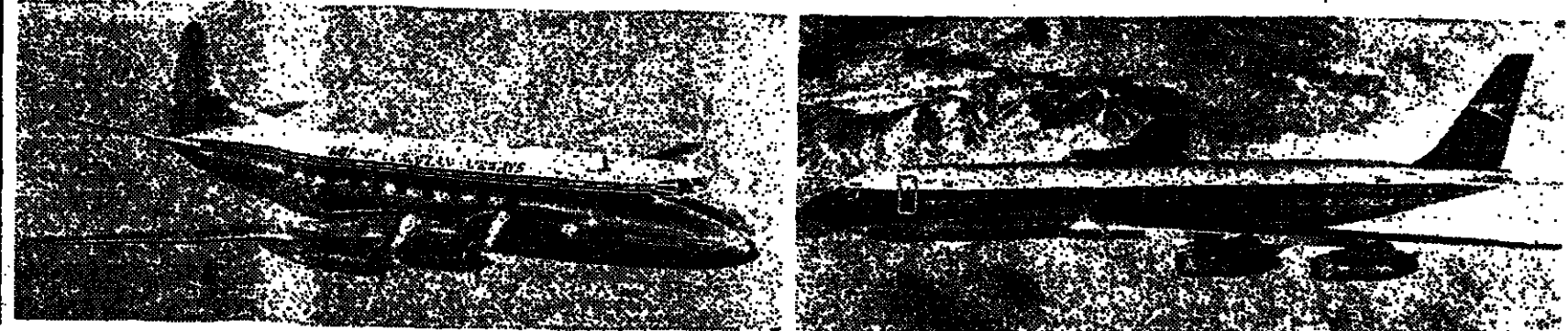
The index stood at 90 in March last year. The office said its latest survey of industry showed industrial activity was steady in March and no change is expected for the next three months.

SINGAPORE

The trade deficit widened 1,502 million Singapore dollars (£395m) in March from \$1,165m a year earlier and \$1,290m in February, on preliminary calculations. Imports rose 12 per cent to \$5,473m while exports rose only 6 per cent, to \$3,971m.

In the quarter, the deficit widened to \$4,575m from \$3,244m a year earlier.

British Airways: Sir John prepares for take-off



Sir John King, British Airways chairman, announced a major new structural plan yesterday which involves splitting the ailing state airline into "profit centres". BA moles have been campaigning to have the airline returned to its constituent parts — British Overseas Airways Corporation and British European Airways — and will hail the announcement as a victory. Sir John is preparing the airline, which will lose as much as £250m in 1981-82, for privatization.

Arthur Reed reports

at up to £105m, is high, but is seen by Sir John and his executive Roy Watts as an investment in both efficiency and profits for the future. But even at 42,000 BA is still overmanned compared with most of its major American competitors. Further redundancies can be expected and the airline is likely to finish up with 35,000 workers — which would make it very competitive.



ideal examples. He is in the forefront of those who believe that the scheme should have been introduced at the time of the merger, rather than after a decade of disaffection and disputes between staff and management and in recent years, horrendous losses — £140m in 1980-81, and as much as £250m in 1981-82 when the redundancy payments are accounted for.

Splitting the airline in what appears to be a series of mini-airlines will, or so Sir John's philosophy runs, restore interest and pride in the airline among the staff, and give a much harder edge to competitiveness. BA's "moles", members of middle management who, for the past 18 months or more, have been carrying out a clandestine campaign to have BA returned to BOAC and BEA, are presumably joyful at Sir John's decisions.

Splitting the airline in what appears to be a series of mini-airlines will, or so Sir John's philosophy runs, restore interest and pride in the airline among the staff, and give a much harder edge to competitiveness.

But the chairman of the airline has some justification in denying hotly that his action is a return to the pre-1970 situation — although the loyalists which he expects to be engendered in the future are those which marked out the two old companies.

The new structure appears to be a sensible halfway house between splitting back into separate airlines which was never a serious possibility, and the monolithic structure into which BA ossified.

Having introduced stages one and two of his survival plan, Sir John is spurring staff that there could be a stage three if the anticipated financial turnaround does not happen. But the feeling within the industry is that the medicine now prescribed should bring the patient round, and the chairman will now devote much of his time planning to fulfil the central theme of his brief from Downing Street — to move BA out of the public and into the private sector.

Bankers starting to 'think small'

PERSPECTIVE: MERCHANT BANKING

By Sally White



The move towards centralization in merchant banking where over the last 150 years the vast majority of groups have concentrated in the City of London has left a substantial gap. There are signs that the situation may be changing.

alternative to the famous clearing bank or merchant banking names is generating new independent regional merchant banks. But the greatest incentive is coming with the Government's efforts through provision of funds and tax concessions to create new small companies. Local financial groups, are obvious middle-men to introduce the entrepreneurs to the investment money.

Noble Grossart in Edinburgh was set up by Mr Angus Grossart, who came from the Scottish bar, in 1969 and has now developed far south of the border and overseas as well. Darlington however seeks to emulate the policies of East Anglian Securities based in Norwich.

Doubts are voiced by Mr Grossart as to whether provincial banks could develop as grandly as Grossart because Edinburgh is a major financial centre. Edinburgh has also been an expanding financial centre because of North Sea oil. Against that background Noble Grossart has been able to attract such corporate clients as James Gulliver of Alpine Holdings

Wise Speke in Newcastle, Stock Beach in Bristol, Parsons in Glasgow, Albert E Sharp in Birmingham and Henry Cooke, Lumsden in Manchester — are all servicing new and established companies in their local financial communities. At the end of the bumpy ride they will find, he asserts, "cleaner aeroplanes, more punctual aeroplanes, acceptable food, good services — and all at a very competitive price".

Talented individuals are the vital factor, according to Mr James Ferguson of the major Scottish based investment group, Stewart Fund Managers, who have a 40 per cent stake in East Anglian. "I think that there is a case for East Anglian, but I am not convinced that there is generally a case for small merchant banks to be set up over the country. On the other hand there are opportunities for talented individuals," he said.

What Darlington and East Anglian have in common is founders who wanted to do business locally, and wanted to be entrepreneurs themselves. "We aim to give a personal service," is Mr Johnstone's theme — so with all Darlington's and East Anglian's services. Staff in national groups are often switched around — so that even in a High Street branch the man behind the desk could be no less of a stranger than the one in the City. The aim is to save the businessman's time by being on the doorstep, to know his track record and financial credibility; as well as what his business needs and to take the formality out of discussions on complicated financial technicalities. And a chat with that top man to discuss all financial worries is simple to arrange.

That in both Darlington and East Anglian's cases includes the personal and company investment area as well as corporate finance. East Anglian, with present capital at £1m has been going since the mid-1970s. Mr William Jacob is currently the managing director there, the original founders having moved on. "We believe that there is a gap in the market between the very small and the medium-sized company — the company looking for something between £50,000 and £1m — becoming too expensive for the City. There needs to be another nought on the end."

More small banks will undoubtedly emerge now that there are so many incentives for professional financial employees to seek a stake in the equity of their own companies, while themselves helping to set up new entrepreneurs.

Business Editor

Fraser looking over its shoulder

According to Professor Roland Smith, part-time chairman of House of Fraser, the two London representatives on the Fraser's board made several positive contributions at yesterday's meeting.

The Professor did not go into details, but it left the City wondering why Britain's largest stores group lifted the final dividend eight per cent despite lower pre-tax profits, including a 20 per cent decline in the important second half.

Fraser points out that the payment is more than twice covered at least on a historic cost basis. But it must presumably feel itself under pressure from Lomrho (with its near 30 per cent shareholding) as the latter turns its attention to persuading the Department of Trade that its objections to a takeover have now been largely overcome.

For the 52 weeks to January 30 Fraser's sales rose 6 per cent to £826m while trading profit dipped from £46.5m to £34.9m, the third consecutive fall. However, lower financing costs and a sharp fall in the tax charge (from £10m to £3.3m) has left earnings per share unchanged at 16.3p.

Although the group does not break down the profits figures, it is reckoned that as much as half now comes from the Knightsbridge store Harrods. The provincial chains, such as Binns, and the Scottish operation probably account for much of the remainder.

The directors have said their first objective is to improve the profitability of the traditional department store business, and it seems likely that more of the stores will come under review this year.

Meanwhile, the group continues to expand its new Astral Sportswear chain, is making more use of the Harrods name and has started to make more of the financial services it has to offer. But the market was unimpressed with yesterday's results as the shares slipped 2p to 156p — and Fraser must remain vulnerable until the benefits of the present management exercise start to come through in the form of rising profits.

S Pearson Strategy

This time S Pearson has handled the purchase of the 36.4 per cent of Pearson Longman not already owned in a sensible fashion; and so it had to alter the embarrassing contraptions with PL institutional shareholders, which looked a deal four years ago.

The terms are reasonable, there is a cash alternative, and also thrown in is a profit forecast of sorts (Pearson in 1982).

A merger will enable the group to expand without incurring conflicts of interest, and while tax advantages will accrue with S Pearson as the 100 per cent owner. Moreover, now that PL has gearing following its investment programme, it did not make sense to have the whole of PL debt on Pearsons books and only 63.6 per cent of the equity.

But if the financial structure looks neater, the 1981 figures from both companies have a curate's egg look about them. The Financial Times profit rose from £2.12m to £3.26m with the Frankfurt operation contributing at last. It remains to be seen how great a threat the planned launch of a European edition of the Wall Street Journal will prove. However, Westminster Press fared less well due to the recession in job advertising. Although Doulton's profits dipped sharply, the Fairway acquisition is at last proving its worth.

Pearson's strategy for the next 10 years must depend heavily on electronic publishing, video, cable and satellite television, as well as expansion in the high quality education market in the United States.

In order to achieve this strategy, it would be no surprise if the group disposed of some inessential bits of the business, and concentrated its sights upon the new technology of the "global village" and the thirst for knowledge in developing countries.

Building socs Safe as houses?

The building societies have now fallen into line with many other consumer groups, from banks to tour companies, and produced a formal industry funding scheme to protect depositors in the event of trouble.

There has, of course, been no recent case of building society savers having to suffer loss in the event of problems arising. In the case of minor troubles, societies have usually been tucked safely under the wing of larger brethren, as much as anything to maintain confidence. In the case of Grays, where a serious deficiency arose, the Woolwich took

WHSMITH

W.H. Smith & Son (Holdings) PLC

Results 1981/1982

|                                     | 1981/82<br>£million | 1980/81<br>£million |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| TURNOVER                            | 773.0               | 681.1               |
| TRADING PROFIT                      | 23.3                | 18.9                |
| Net interest payable                | 2.2                 | 2.8                 |
| PROFIT BEFORE TAX                   | 21.1                | 16.1                |
| Taxation                            | 8.4                 | 5.7                 |
| PROFIT AFTER TAX                    | 12.7                | 10.4                |
| Extraordinary items - loss          | 4.0                 | 1.0                 |
| NET PROFIT                          | 8.7                 | 9.4                 |
| per 50p share                       |                     |                     |
| Earnings before extraordinary items | 14.9p               | 12.3p               |
| Dividend for the year               | 5.25p               | 4.6p                |
| * TURNOVER UP                       |                     | 13.5%               |
| * PROFIT BEFORE TAX UP              |                     | 31.2%               |
| * CAPITAL EXPENDITURE               |                     | £16.4 million       |
| * DIVIDEND INCREASE                 |                     | 14.1%               |

For copies of our Annual Report and Accounts and the Staff Report please write to the Company Secretary at Strand House, 10 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1AD on or after 20 May 1982.



# De Beers:

## The long-range outlook judged from the consumer market gives good reason for optimism

Extracts from Mr H F Oppenheimer's Statement on De Beers in 1981

The recession in the diamond industry which began in the middle of 1980 continued and deepened throughout 1981 and the end is not in sight. Sales by the Central Selling Organisation (CSO) fell, measured in Rand, by 42 per cent to R1 249 million and, measured in US Dollars, by 46 per cent to \$1 472 million and the Group's net profits, excluding its share of the retained profits of associates, fell by 46 per cent from R668 million to R364 million. Stocks of diamonds increased during the year by R705 million to R1 403 million. Sales to the market this year have been running at higher levels in dollar terms than in the second half of last year but a further increase in diamond stocks is anticipated during the year. In these circumstances the Board concluded with great regret that prudence required a reduction in the final dividend from 50 cents to 25 cents resulting in a total dividend of 75 cents (which was twice covered) as compared with 75 cents (covered 2.5 times) in 1980. The reduced dividend reflects both the continuance of the world recession and our determination to carry out our traditional stabilising role in the diamond world and that the Company has arranged facilities with its bankers made possible by the conservative dividend and sound investment policies of the past, which are ample for its requirements.

The fall off in the demand for diamonds is concentrated in the larger and finer qualities including in particular the so-called 'near gem' qualities in which speculation during the boom years was especially concentrated. These sizes and qualities normally account for a large proportion of the CSO's sales. Sales of the smaller sizes and lower qualities have generally speaking been satisfactory and the demand for diamond jewellery particularly, though not exclusively, at the lower end of the market has continued throughout at a high and encouraging level. The market for the rare and more expensive forms of jewellery is adversely affected to a much greater extent than the rest of the market by the unprecedented levels of speculation particularly in America. In previous statements I drew attention to the obvious dangers of speculation in the cutting centres at particular prices and on this account the recession in the diamond industry started sooner and is perhaps deeper than the world economic recession as a whole. This speculation was largely financed by bank credits and it is satisfactory to see that by now largely on account of the policy of withholding diamonds from sale when the market is depressed, the level of bank credit in the leading cutting centres has been substantially reduced, in some cases by as much as 50 per cent, and is now generally speaking at a reasonable level. This reduction strongly suggests that the special reasons which existed for the recession in the diamond industry are a fair way to being overcome and that the continuation of a low level of sales reflects adverse economic conditions in general to a greater extent than circumstances peculiar to the diamond industry. We cannot expect prosperous conditions in our industry at a time of world depression and in particular while interest rates remain at their present high level. However, any improvement in the world economy and in particular in business conditions in the United States should be rapidly reflected in the diamond industry.

*'... any improvement in the world economy and in particular in business conditions in the United States should be rapidly reflected in the diamond industry'*

In November of last year the CSO, in order to lay a sound basis for recovery as soon as general business conditions improve, made important modifications in the manner of presentation of diamonds to the market. The sales assortments were altered so as to allow our customers to fit their purchases more accurately to their individual requirements in the new market conditions. It is essential for any trading organisation to be alive and sensitive to changing needs and conditions and we are satisfied that the new selling arrangements we have introduced will help to preserve the value of diamonds and to protect the stability of the trade. The state of the market for those diamonds which are bought wholly or partly for investment is a matter of considerable significance, mainly from a psychological point of view since they have never made up a large proportion of the world-wide trade in polished diamonds. Diamonds have proved good investments over the years so long as they have been bought at prices

which bear a reasonable relationship to the level of rough diamond prices maintained and protected by the activities of the CSO. However, diamonds bought at high premium prices in times of speculative boom are obviously not likely to prove good investments. During the boom the prices of the so-called investment diamonds rose out of all control and at one time the price of top colour flawless brilliants of one carat weight which had acquired a quite unreasonable importance as a market leader and indicator rose to about \$65 000, a figure which had no relation whatever either to the cost of the rough from which such stones are manufactured or to the price which they could even in good times be expected to command as an item of jewellery. This particular description — the '1 carat D-flawless brilliant' — is only one of many classifications of polished diamonds of which minimal quantities are produced each year. The prices currently quoted for this particular article (and there must be some question as to the number of transactions actually concluded) are low in relation to the corresponding prices of rough. This would certainly suggest that although demand at the investment end of the market remains very restricted a sound psychological basis has been established for a resumption of growth in overall sales of rough diamonds as soon as economic conditions improve.

During 1981 production was reduced both in Namaqualand and at CDM and total mining expenditure excluding Jwaneng, the new mine in Botswana which started production at the beginning of this year at R513 million was less by R39 million than in 1980. Group production for 1982, excluding Jwaneng, has been further reduced and is estimated to amount to 13 794 000 carats as compared with 15 438 000 carats in 1981. In spite of this reduction working costs

*'It is satisfactory to be able to report that consumers are continuing to react as favourably as ever to diamonds and to the traditions associated with them.'*

(excluding Jwaneng) at R415 million are estimated to be higher by R55 million than last year, an indication of the rate of inflation. On the other hand we estimate it will be possible to reduce capital expenditure (excluding Jwaneng) to R119 million, a reduction of R34 million below the comparable 1981 figure so that the total expenditure at the mines is estimated to show a net increase of only R21 million as compared with last year.

We have thought it right, while making every effort to avoid waste, to make a significant increase in our expenditure on promotion and advertising and here there will be increased emphasis on the marketing of the larger, better quality diamonds. It is satisfactory to be able to report that consumers are continuing to react as favourably as ever to diamonds and to the traditions associated with them. It is estimated for example that in 1981, some 70 per cent of all first-time brides in America acquired a diamond engagement ring, and the ownership of diamonds by American women in general has been rising steadily to the extent that last year more than one in ten acquired a new piece of diamond jewellery. We are actively opening new consumer segments such as men's diamond jewellery. In the other leading markets, Japan and Germany, the corresponding figures have been rising towards the levels in the United States and the use of diamonds has also been increasing satisfactorily in the other European countries, in South East Asia and also in Latin America. Generally speaking, therefore, the long-range outlook judged from the consumer market gives good reason for optimism.

The general business recession was felt in the market for industrial diamonds also, but nevertheless total sales only declined slightly. Sales of natural industrials continued to lose ground in relation to synthetic products partly because of technical improvements in the synthetic field and the entry of new synthetic producers into the market and partly because of the fall off of production from Zaire. The new mine recently discovered in Australia to which I make reference below will in about three years' time become an important producer of industrial diamonds and we shall make every effort to develop the market in a way as to allow for the absorption on satisfactory terms of the output from this new source.

In the course of the year our long-standing agreement for the marketing of the production of the Milba mine in Zaire was terminated by the Government of that country. We naturally very much regret this development but its importance can easily be over estimated. Milba

production has decreased over some years and the prices obtained by the mine have recently declined with the result that the total realised value of this production is now under \$45 million per annum. While this is a significant figure it does not make up an important percentage of world diamond production.

The important discovery recently made in Western Australia by the Ashton Joint Venture (AJV) — the Argyle mine — will produce very large quantities of diamonds similar in quality to those produced in Zaire. Argyle will be a very big mine indeed with the highest recovery grade anywhere in the world. A major part of its production will consist of so-called 'near gem' qualities and 'industrials', and when the mine reaches full production its output of these qualities will make up more than half of the total produced in the world. Argyle's output of gem qualities, while significant, will amount to only a comparatively small proportion of world production. Production on a moderate scale from the gravels surrounding the mine is due to start in the second half of this year and production from the mine itself will probably begin in about three years' time. An agreement has been reached in principle between the CSO and the major partners in AJV in regard to the marketing of this potentially large and unusual production. It is intended that subject to AJV's right to extract diamonds on an agreed basis for the purpose of establishing their own cutting factory in Australia, the CSO should market the Argyle gem production on an exclusive basis and that the 'near gem' and industrial qualities should be marketed as to 75 per cent through the CSO and as to 25 per cent by the AJV directly, in recognition of its special position in this sector of the market. Details of an agreement along these lines are at present in the course of negotiation.

In spite of depressed conditions we are continuing prospecting activities on a large scale on the African continent and elsewhere, particularly in Australia and South America. The cluster of pipes on the farm Veneta in the Northern Transvaal to which I referred in my statement last year are being sampled through surface trenches and shafts and the ground treated in a heavy media separation plant. Much work remains to be done before a definite valuation of these deposits can be made. In South West Africa/Namibia prospecting inland along the Orange River has given very encouraging results. Application has been made in response to enquiries put out by the South African Government for prospecting rights for diamonds offshore at various locations along the Namaqualand coast.

*'We are well equipped to see through what may yet remain to be faced of this time of depression and to take full advantage of better economic conditions when they return.'*

Our investments outside the diamond industry were valued at the year-end at just over R3 000 million. Two important changes have been made in their composition: in the course of last year we exchanged our holdings in Consolidated Gold Fields (Congold) and in Anglo American Corporation of Canada (Amcan) for additional shares in Minerals and Resources Corporation (Minorco). This was part of a reorganisation by which Anglo American Corporation of South Africa similarly exchanged its Congold and Amcan holdings and also its 36 per cent interest in Charter Consolidated for new Minorco shares. The effect has been substantially to enlarge and strengthen Minorco and to put it in a better position to expand its business. Our interest in the enlarged Minorco amounts to 23 per cent. In January of this year De Beers Industrial Corporation (Debinco) was merged with Anglo American Industrial Corporation (Amic) and our interest in the combined company amounts to 25 per cent. The enlarged Amic is a powerful and well diversified industrial group with total assets of about R2 700 million. Through this reconstruction we have acquired an improved growth and earnings potential in the industrial sector together with a wider spread of interests.

The year has been an exceptionally difficult one — indeed we have not gone through such hard times since I entered the business fifty years ago during the depression of the 30s. The structure of the trade built since then is, however, standing up firmly to this severe test. Our problems are no longer specific to the diamond industry but are world wide in nature. We are well equipped to see through what may yet remain to be faced of this time of depression and to take full advantage of better economic conditions when they return.

The treatment plant at the Jwaneng mine in Southern Botswana. Owned in partnership with the Government, Jwaneng was commissioned in January and is due to reach its initial rated capacity of 4.8 million tons per annum during the second half of this year. It is probable that the recovery grade will be higher than any other mine in this Group and the diamonds produced will be of medium quality. Jwaneng is probably the most important Kimberlite pipe discovered anywhere in the world since the original discoveries at Kimberley more than a century ago.

# De Beers

De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited

Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

For the full Report & Accounts for 1981 including the Chairman's Statement, please send this coupon to: The London Secretaries, Room 2, 40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1AJ.

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## BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

## BLUE CIRCLE

## Satisfactory year for cement maker

Blue Circle, Britain's largest cement maker, came out with full-year figures at the lower end of City forecasts but were still regarded as satisfactory with 30 per cent pretax profits rise.

Estimates had been for £115m but in the event, pretax profits of £104.1m compared favourably with £79.5m last year.

But the group warned yesterday that repeated success would depend on how much improvement from its United Kingdom activities this year could offset the expected downturn overseas.

John Milne, managing director, says a major fall in sterling terms is expected in some of its Latin American earnings this year. To balance this, Blue Circle is hoping for benefits from its foreign reorganisation and cost-cutting programme in the United Kingdom. By the end of this year the workforce will be down 30 per cent to 6,500 since the start of last year.

Most of these costs are included and provided for in the exceptional item of £13m which was much higher than anticipated. At the trading level, profits, including associate profits, were up at £120.8m against £87.5m. The bulk came from continued growth in overseas — with the main increases from Africa and the Americas.

The Americas contribution soared from £25.3m to £44.8m with Mexican earnings up 60 per cent to £25m but these

levels are not what again this year. Profits from Chile were also up.

Earnings in the United Kingdom fell to £53.9m against £36.7m, due to declining demand for both cement and building products, despite significant cost savings. Although cement deliveries fell 18.5 per cent last year there are signs that industry volume is picking up. But the severe winter weather saw a slow start to the year.

Savings on labour costs this year are estimated at £4m and moves for efficient plant could save another £7m.

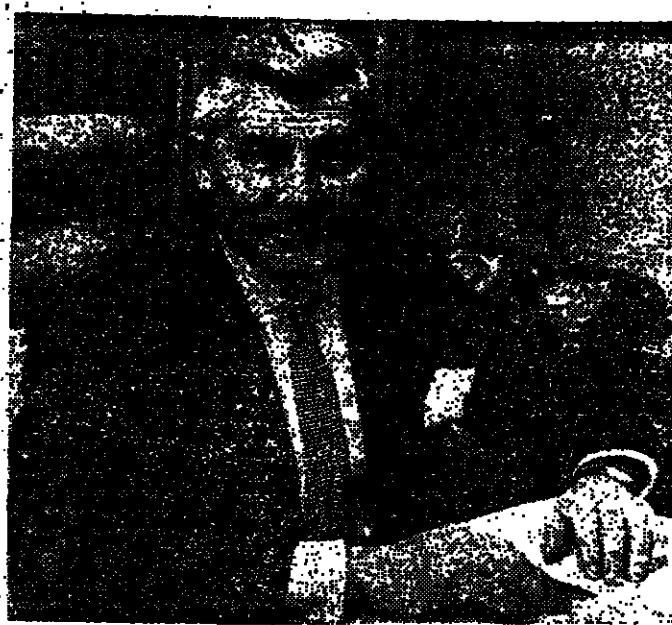
Total group sales rose £22m to £750m. The generous lift in the final dividend to 16.75p gross, made a total of 25p against 21.4p.

## IMPERIAL

## Selling US wing

The Imperial Group is negotiating the sale of its United States poultry company, Country Pride Foods. The potential buyer is Conagra of Omaha, Nebraska, which ranks as one of the largest poultry companies in the United States. Although the price is still under discussion, observers believe Imperial will receive around £22m.

Earlier this month Imperial sold its JB Eastwood egg and poultry business in the United Kingdom to Hillsdown Holdings for almost £54m. The Eastwood disposal and the proposed sale of Country Pride, the fourth largest poultry in the United States with six per cent of the market, is in line with group's strategy of concentrating on food manufacturing in areas where Imperial



John Milne: Seeking a balance

has considerable brand strength.

Conagra is investigating the Country Pride business before a deal is finalized by the two boards. If the sale goes through, Conagra will become the largest poultry group in the United States.

Imperial paid £20m for Country Pride in 1975. In 1981 the company suffered a pre-tax loss of £19m (£11.14m) on a turnover of £727m. The main reason was sharply higher animal feed prices caused by a severe drought in the previous year. So far in 1982, Country Pride is breaking even.

On further asset disposals, Imperial said yesterday: "We are looking at all our businesses to see how they fit into our strategy."

## PENTLAND

## Six-hit

Despite continuing pressure on margins, Pentland Industries, the shoe to shipping services group, made record profits in 1981, up from £1.21m pretax, the sixth annual increase.

Sales rose 16 per cent and dividends for the year are being increased from 2.34p gross to 2.78p with a 2.21p per share final distribution.

State earnings per 10p share were 13.85p against 8.9p. The group is also making a one for five scrip issue.

The board states that subject to circumstances outside their control, the

current year should show a further strengthening of the group.

On a current cost basis, pretax profits were up from £1m to £1.14m. Pentland shares jumped 3p to a 1982 high of 74p where they yield 3.8 per cent.

The current cost figures show that the dividend is covered five times with current cost profits rising 14 per cent. Current cost earnings per share rose from 5.64p to 12.15p.

The new ordinary shares will not rank for the dividend in respect of the year to December. They will be allotted to shareholders on the register at June 7 with dealings in the new shares beginning on July 13.

## G W SPARROW

## No lift-off

The worst trading conditions in its history slashed pretax profits of crane hire group G W Sparrow & Sons from £995,000 to £93,000 with dividends for the year cut from 2.48p gross to 1.06p per share.

Hire rates were low with no work at all from some cranes during the year, leading to losses in the United Kingdom, the United States and in its French associate company. Turnover in 1981 was up from £21.44m to £27.17m.

After rationalization in the United Kingdom during the year, the prospects are now considerably brighter, according to the board, with the half the fleet in the heavy crane division fully committed until the end of the year and current rates being quoted at more realistic levels.

There has been an increase in the volume of work obtained in the crane hire division and it will be some time before profits in this division return to acceptable levels, says the board.

The group's United States subsidiary, Sparrows International of Houston is now trading at a profit while its offshore division started the year with a substantial order book ensuring it would be kept fully occupied throughout 1982, with good profits expected on the present year.

As a result of the poor profits in 1981, the dividend is being paid partially out of reserves, but once conditions permit the Board intends to restore this reduction in the dividend.

## HARVESTER

## Loans deal

International Harvester, the troubled United States heavy duty lorry, agricultural equipment and construction group, has, as expected, negotiated variations in the terms of its loans from major banks to stave off bankruptcy. However, the company has announced that it will need further restructuring of its \$4,200m (£2,385m) debt agreement fixed on November 1 last year to keep the company afloat.

Under the restructuring agreed yesterday, International Harvester's net worth can fall to \$800m and its liabilities rise to 5.2 times that sum without breaching

its loan covenants. Under the November 1 agreement the group had to keep net worth at \$1,000m and its liabilities could rise to only four times that amount.

Although the announcement does not say so specifically, the company is now looking at converting some of the loans into equity. The variations in the loan agreements have become necessary, it says, because of the continuing deterioration in its markets fuelled by the recession in the United States. If a further restructuring can be worked out, the company believes it can be profitable.

It has repeated that it intends to concentrate its business in its core activities and sell off under-used loss-making plants.

## LIBERTY

## Profits increase

Liberty store, famous for its fabrics, has quietly diversified.

"As a chartered accountant I like to see that we are in three areas: retailing, wholesaling and property," said Mr David Pike the chairman. Profits in 1981 were up from £74,000 to £154,000, and the dividend has been increased to bring the total to 2.4p compared to 1980's 1.7p. The shares rose by 10p to 135p on the news, to yield 1.8 per cent.

Liberty has opened three small stores in London's Kings Road, in York and Manchester and has 15 shops within shops. More outlets are being planned.

The group has a store in the Netherlands and outlets in New York, Philadelphia, and a joint venture in Japan

## HUNTING PETROL

## Forecast topped

Hunting Petroleum exceeded its rights issue forecast of pretax profits of £7.1m last year by reporting yesterday a figure of £7.5m. This compares with a 1980 pretax profit of £4.1m, and was "a very satisfactory result", according to Mr Clive Hunting, chairman. The profit was struck on turnover ahead from £121.3m to £161.9m, and the final dividend has been increased by 0.75p to give a year's payment of 7.5p (6.5p).

All divisions of the company contributed to the profits advance with drilling and offshoot services notable for a jump in profits from £1.1m to £2.7m. Marketing profits also doubled to £1.0m.

Telephone Rentals raised pretax profits last year to £13.8m from £12.4m. The final dividend is 7.5p gross, a fall of 1.43p. But the interim at 5.71p, was double the 1980 payment, giving a full dividend of 13.2p against 11.8p.

Turnover rose by 11 per cent to £53.7m but an increase in tax from £7.87m to £8.14m left attributable profits only £55,000 higher at £7.89m.

## PENSIONS

The common formula for company pension schemes is one-sixtieth of the number of years of service times the final salary, not one-sixteenth, as stated in a Special Report on April 23.

## OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Net Consolidated earnings of Brown, Boveri Cie, the West German subsidiary of Brown, Boveri of Switzerland, slumped 55 per cent to DM15.6m in 1981, forcing the electrical equipment maker to slash its dividend by 25 per cent to DM6 a share.

Executives blamed the disappointing results on a variety of factors, most notably operating cost increases that outpaced price rises. Although unfavourable price-to-cost ratio is also expected to burden the company in 1982,

Herr Herbert Gessert, the managing board chairman, said earnings will not deteriorate further.

Asahi Glass, Japan's top glass manufacturer, has announced that consolidated earnings edged up a fractional 0.9 per cent in 1981 ended in December to yen 23,846,000 from yen 23,626,000 in 1980.

Sales rose a slight 1 per cent to yen 22,293,000, from yen 19,931,000 in 1980. Asahi Glass's net earnings had climbed 33.8 per cent, prompting the company to draw up a plan to double sales and earnings in five years. Company officials said a drop in demand in the car and housing industries — two of the

main glass-using sectors of the industry — hurt the 1981 performance.

Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical's board of directors has declared a quarterly dividend for the first quarter 1982 of 15 cents per share of the company's common stock, a reduction of 20 cents from the 35 cents per share which has been paid every quarter since the third quarter of 1980.

The dividend is payable on May 31, 1982, to share owners of record May 10, 1982.

Mr Corwell I. Maier, chairman, said the action reflects the lengthy and deep recession in the United States, and world economies which continue to severely restrict

demand for aluminium, the company's main product. As a result, Kaiser Aluminum had losses in the third quarter of 1981 and the first quarter of 1982.

Makita Electric Works a leading Japanese manufacturer of electric power tools said consolidated net earnings in 1981 ended on February 20 went down 7.6 per cent to yen 5,401,000 from yen 5,844,000 in the previous financial year.

Sales, however, climbed 5.6 per cent to yen 69,735,000 from yen 66,044,000, an all-time high. Makita officials traced the net earnings drop mainly to a rise in Japanese corporate taxes and the yen's appreciation against the

leading European currencies that eroded the company's competitive edge.

Citing the depressed Hongkong property market and the Singapore dollar's strength against the Hongkong dollar property company Hong Kong said group aftertax profits dropped 28 per cent in 1981 to Singapore \$5.8m from 1980.

The 1981 profit total as well below the Singapore \$12.8m figure predicted in the company's prospectus to last year's

## APPOINTMENTS

Professor J C Shaw, senior Edinburgh partner in Deloitte Haskins and Sells, chartered accountants, has been appointed to the board of the Scottish Mortgage and Trust.

Mr R D Young, a director of Henry Anson Holdings, has been appointed to the board of Touche, Remnant & Co.

Dr A W Mawby is to be marketing director of the vehicle

finishes division of International Paint.

Mr Clive Newman is now managing director of Dynapac (UK). He has been general manager since July 1981 when the company was formed as the wholly-owned British subsidiary of Dynapac Maschin of Sweden.

Sir Hubert Newell has been re-elected chairman of Britnair Building Society for the ensuing year, and A Strutt has been elected deputy chairman.

Mr J C D Goldschmidt will be

## BIDS AND DEALS

Canon (UK) has announced that it has reached agreement with DRG for expanding their business machines retail operations.

DRG, through its Barratt and Blackall trading companies, will sell Canon plain paper copiers from no fewer than 17 locations across the United Kingdom. The two-year contract will be worth more than £10m in sales.

Allied-Lyons, has posted an offer to acquire the 80.3 per cent of the share capital of J. and W. Nicholson and Co (Holdings) a does not already own.

Nicholson is a private unlisted company which has had close trading links with Allied-Lyons for many years. The offer is recommended by its board.

Consideration for the acquisition of £6,422,337, will be satisfied on full acceptance by issue of

7,559,847 ordinary shares of Allied-Lyons.

International Paint has acquired all the share capital of Litvaco Tintas Graficas of Sao Paulo, Brazil, Manufacturers of packaging coatings.

The gross income of London and Montrose Invest. Trust was £715,328 (£675,029) in half year to March 31. Expenses were £57,785 (£58,895), and net income interest £2,428 (£2,428).

## CAPITAL MARKETS

A five-year, \$500m Eurobond for the World Bank was launched yesterday with a 14.25 per cent coupon and a 99.5 per cent pricing. Lead manager is Deutsche Bank and expected yield is 14.4 per cent. A \$4200m issue of 10-year Eurobonds to yield 8.6 per cent and priced at par is also being made.

Sheff Canada is issuing a \$125m, 10-year Eurobond, Morgan

Guaranteed by the Swiss Confederation, managed by J. P. Morgan & Co. and guaranteed by E. I. Dupont de Nemours. They will be priced at par and pay 13.75 per cent for five years, then offer an option of a new rate and the number of payments.

The New Zealand Government will borrow 15,000 million yen on a Japanese consortium of 16 banks and insurance companies over 10 years, Mitsubishi Trust and Bank of Tokyo, manager, said. It is set at Japanese long-term prime rate at the time of draw plus 0.2 per cent.

## LATEST RESULTS

| Company                | Share        | Profit      | Earnings     | Div         | Pay  | Year's      |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------|-------------|
| of £1                  | of £1        | of £1       | per share    | price       | date | total       |
| BLT Ind. (F)           | 9,265(7,845) | 694(479)    | 99.0(64.4)   | 8.5(5.5)    | 1/7  | 23(19)      |
| Blue Circle (F)        | 750(2637.3)  | 104(179.5)  | 48(141.1)    | 11.75(10)   | —    | 17.5(15)    |
| L.A. Denslow (F)       | 7,826(88)    | 0.19(25)    | 2.37(2)      | 2.37(2)     | —    | —           |
| Central & Sheppard (F) | 94,793(83)   | 0.28(0.25)  | 0.44(0.57)   | 0.55(0.3)   | 11/6 | 1.05(1.05)  |
| Hoskins & Horton (F)   | 4,493(25)    | 0.45(0.18)  | 16.4(25.5)   | 3(2)        | —    | 5(2)        |
| Hue & Fraser (F)       | 826(877.3)   | 28(4.1)     | 16.3(16.3)   | 5(4.6)      | 2/7  | 7(5.6)      |
| James, Hill & Co. (F)  | —            | 0.34(1.1)   | 3.25(3.25)   | 2.8(2.6)    | —    | 5(1)        |
| Lake View (F)          | —            | 3.8(3.48)   | 4.6(4.5)     | 2.8(2.6)    | —    | 4(1.3)      |
| Liberty (F)            | 23,73(20.9)  | 0.51(0.074) | 4.17(0.31)   | 2(1.3)      | 14/6 | 2.4(1.7)    |
| Lithas (F)             | 10,01(11.64) | 0.18(0.3)   | 1.12(1.2)    | —           | —    | 5(3.5)      |
| Marlborough Prop (F)   | 2,32(26)     | 0.41(0.15)  | 2.5(2.6)     | 0.4(0.3)    | —    | 0.4(0.32)   |
| James Hill (F)         | 47,84(51.38) | 1.0(0.28)   | 5.6(6.17)    | —           | —    | —           |
| Harvest Petroleum (F)  | 161,8(121.3) | 7.49(4.14)  | 36.3(23.58)  | 5(4.5)      | 14/7 | 7.5(6.5)    |
| Postland Ind (F)       | 1,32(135.2)  | 1.32(135.2) | 1.35(135.2)  | 1.35(135.2) | —    | 1.35(135.2) |
| Petroleum (F)          | 9,11(1.977)  | 0.94(0.074) | 13.99(2.13)  | 1.75(—)     | 11/6 | 2.5(—)      |
| Savoy Hotel (F)        | 32(30.1)     | 0.81(79)    | 1.1(11)      | 1(11)       | —    | 1(11)       |
| W. H. Smith (F)        | 772,8(681.1) | 21(175.1)   | 14.9(12.3)   | 3.75(2.2)   | 5/7  | 5.25(4.6)   |
| S. W. Sparrow (F)      | 27(121.4)    | 0.083(0.08) | 0.20(0.2)    | 0.20(0.2)   | —    | 7.5(2.1)    |
| Telephone Rentals (F)  | 53,58(48.34) | 5.55(5.55)  | 20.6(20.1)   | 5.55(5.55)  | 5/7  | 9.26(2)     |
| Thomson T-Line (F)     | 2,51(3.1)    | 0.51(0.46)  | 29.55(22.45) | —           | —    | 5(5.25)     |
| Wadlin (F)             | 27(132.64)   | 1.36(0.47)  | 0.51(0.75)   | 0.51(0.75)  | —    | —           |
| Whitman Rowe (F)       | 167(13.18)   | 1.90(57)    | 28.55(17.76) | 3.21(9)     | —    | 5(3.5)      |

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax of 10 per cent. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.122. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net, a loss, b Gross income, c Net profits.

**UNILEVER N.V.**  
Rotterdam The Netherlands

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**  
On Wednesday, 28th May 1982 at 10.30 a.m. in the "De Doelen" at Congressgebouw de Doelen, entrance Kijkduin 20, Rotterdam

**AGENDA**

- Annual Report for 1981.
- Approval and adoption of the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account for 1981 and adoption of the proposed Profit Appropriation for 1981.
- Appointment of Directors.
- Appointment of Auditors.
- Proposal for amendment of the Articles of Association.
- Proposal to grant authority to the Board of Directors pursuant to Articles 95 & 96 of Book 2 of the Netherlands Civil Code.
- Questions.

This agenda, the Annual Report for 1981 including the Balance Sheet, the Profit and Loss Account, the proposed Profit Appropriation, the proposed Profit Appropriation for 1981 and the text of the proposed amendments of the Articles of Association and of the proposal to grant authority to the Board of Directors pursuant to Articles 95 & 96 of Book 2 of the Netherlands Civil Code and explanatory statements relating to these proposals are available for inspection by shareholders and holders of certificates issued by UNILEVER N.V. at the offices of the Company, Burgwal 6, 3013 CA Rotterdam, and at the offices of the Bank mentioned below, where copies may be obtained free of charge.

(a) Holders of bearer shares or sub-shares wishing to attend the meeting either in person or by proxy appointed in writing must deposit their shares and sub-shares certificates by Wednesday, 26th May 1982 at the Company's office or at the office of the Bank mentioned below. After this date the shares and sub-shares certificates must be deposited at the offices of the Bank mentioned below. Upon production of the receipt then issued to them such holders will be admitted to the meeting.

(b) Holders of registered shares for which certificates have been issued in another form and holders of bearer shares wishing to attend the meeting either in person or by proxy appointed in writing must notify the Company of their intention by letter, stating that they wish to attend the meeting, to the Company or to the Bank mentioned below, not later than Wednesday, 26th May 1982.

(c) Holders of certificates for shares in UNILEVER N.V. issued by UNILEVER N.V. Administrative Trust for the Netherlands, "Nederlandse certificaten", wishing to attend the meeting without voting per in the voting must deposit such certificates by Wednesday, 26th May 1982 at the offices of the Bank mentioned below. Upon production of the receipt then issued to them such holders will be admitted to the meeting.

(d) Holders of certificates for shares in UNILEVER N.V. issued by UNILEVER N.V. Administrative Trust for the Netherlands, "Nederlandse certificaten", wishing to attend the meeting without voting per in the voting must deposit such certificates by Wednesday, 26th May 1982 at the offices of the Bank mentioned below. Upon production of the receipt then issued to them such holders will be admitted to the meeting.

(e) If holders of the certificates mentioned in (c) and (d) above wish to exercise voting rights at the meeting either in person or by proxy appointed in writing, UNILEVER N.V. Administrative Trust for the Netherlands will exchange such certificates for shares or original shares, which it will hold in the name of such holders at its own office (which office being the designated place of deposit in the event) and exchange the same again after the meeting for the certificates to be issued to such holders in accordance with the conditions of administration of these certificates. For such purposes holders must be ready by Wednesday, 26th May 1982.

Shareholders holding certificates for a multiple thereof (i.e., in the case of certificates for 7% cumulative preference shares, representing a total nominal amount of FL 1,000 or a multiple thereof to UNILEVER N.V. Administrative Trust for the Netherlands, Kijkduin 20, Rotterdam, and of—

— surrender their sub-share certificates for FL 12 nominal amount or multiples thereof, representing a total nominal amount of at least FL 80 per class (i.e., in the case of sub-share certificates for 7% cumulative preference shares, representing a total nominal amount of FL 1,000 or a multiple thereof) to UNILEVER N.V. Administrative Trust for the Netherlands, Kijkduin 20, Rotterdam, and of—

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The certificates so surrendered must be accompanied by a form obtainable free of charge from UNILEVER N.V. Administrative Trust for the Netherlands, Kijkduin 20, Rotterdam, and of—

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The above instructions apply to holders of sub-share certificates for shares in UNILEVER N.V. Administrative Trust for the Netherlands, Kijkduin 20, Rotterdam, and of—

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## GOLF: ITALIAN OPEN PREVIEW

## Sharrock takes scenic route

Geoffrey Brand, a former England international who has been on the tour for five years, calculates that it will cost him the region of £18,000 to travel the world to play the game. With that in mind it is not surprising that he is a professional, struggling to make a living out of the game. Sharrock, who followed Brian Sharrack to the 150,000 Italian Open which began on the 15th of May, is simply not worth while to travel to the tournament.

In 16 official tournaments on the European circuit last season Sharrock won only £75 so it is relatively easy to understand that in spite of being offered an adequate sponsorship by a bakery in Wigan from where he comes, Sharrock set out to win a few more. "When you are not doing any good you have to go to the 'club'," Sharrock, aged 23, explained.

After missing the halfway cut in the Madrid Open last week he

From Mitchell Platts Sardinia, April 28  
elected to drive his car to Sardinia where he had been told he could catch a ferry to Sardinia. On arrival in the French port, Sharrock was informed that the ferry existed and that his best way of reaching Sardinia in time for the pre-qualifying tournament on Monday was to take a plane to Corsica and a ferry from there to Sardinia.

In Corsica, however, he discovered that the ferry would not leave on time and he hired a boat for £80 in a harbour bar. But the boat captain clearly misinterpreted the required port, because he sailed into the island some 300 miles north of the required destination.

He hailed a passing car and explained Sharrock's predicament. The motorist opened his boot in which he placed the necessary papers and finally thought his troubles were over.

It was not to be. Within 400 yards the motorist stopped and pointed to a bus stop. Sharrock waited two hours in torrential rain, took a two-hour bus ride to

the railway station where he waited another two hours before taking a seven-hour train journey to Cagliari from where he needed a taxi to complete his 56-hour marathon from Madrid. The net cost was £185, more than he would have paid if he had flown from the Spanish capital.

He successfully survived the pre-qualifying, as did everybody else, but he must now work out his return trip to Sardinia in order to collect his prize which is in the airport car park.

Bernhard Langer, of West Germany, launched his 1982 campaign in Europe but he missed a succession of halfway cuts in America earlier this year and he is struggling to rediscover the form which won him a record of £81,036 last season. Ken Brown, who cast away a two-stroke advantage entering the last round of the Tunisian Open

two weeks ago, and Mark James head the British challenge.

There is a strong possibility that the eight members of the British Curtis Cup side due to meet the Americans on August 5 and 6 at Denver will not have time to compete in the British Women's Open Championship sponsored by Pirelli during the previous week, Lewine Mair writes.

Much the same problem arose two years ago and no one doubts that Pirelli will be none too happy to lose this particular crop of leading amateurs from their 1982 championship.

If the team were to play in the British they would arrive in Denver with only two days to spare. All the girls in the squad from which the five will be selected have been asked by letter if they feel two days would suffice — but one has the feeling that players and officials alike are already convinced they would not.

## POLO AND THE ARGENTINE CRISIS

## Antipodeans galloping to the rescue as ban ends era

By William Lloyd

Since the resurrection of polo in this country after the Second World War it has been customary for the patrons, those who put together teams for the leading 22-goal tournaments, to invite players from abroad to provide the necessary muscle for their teams. There have hitherto been insufficient English players of adequate handicap to satisfy demand. Inevitably Argentina, where polo is almost a way of life, has provided most of the visitors and indeed most of the ponies.

The outlook seemed bleak when the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands, the Hurlingham Polo Association, the British governing body of polo, announced that no Argentine nationals would be allowed to play in this country for the time being. Subsequent events have made it clear that any ban will be in this country during the coming season.

Though there has been a steady net increase in polo players in this country, the amount of those handicapped at three goals or over has remained roughly constant over the last

four years. Unfortunately there has been a dogged persistence by some patrons to rely on the Argentine top players while neglecting some of the home-produced talent.

However, those patrons who aim for the less ambitious level of medium-goal polo are increasingly turning towards Australia and New Zealand for players and ponies.

Many Antipodean players seem only too happy to play here for little more than the cost of a two-way ticket and their keep, in marked contrast to the Argentine "professional" players, who are paid to play in the Argentine.

Most patrons therefore have had little difficulty in recruiting English, Commonwealth and the Argentine players to fill the gap caused by the ban on Argentines.

A small question mark hangs over the eventual line-up of Guy Widenstein's team, for whom the Brinze of Wales plays, as Robert Graham (on handicap six) is an expatriate farmer in the Argen-

tine. He is, however, believed to be on his way back to England, thus avoiding a possible future restriction of his movement. The spectacular international day at Windsor in July will be completely unaffected, as it was decided before Christmas that the two teams to face England I and England II would be, respectively, New Zealand and United States II.

Although spectators will be denied the pleasure of seeing the like of Moore, Croft, Gonzalez and others from the Argentine in action here this year, and also some of the more volatile displays of temperament on the field, they can rest assured of a good entry for all the main tournaments.

In future, once the Falkland Islands issue has been satisfactorily resolved, we may well see players from Argentina back here on tour. It is a possibility I doubt, though, after a season when we will have coped ably without them, that they will ever be in quite such a dominant position in English polo as in previous years.

William Lloyd is manager of the Guards Polo Club, Windsor

## BASKETBALL

## Wisman the whiz-man for Europe

By Nicholas Harling

It was not so much England's two victories on consecutive days against Colombia as the manner in which they were accomplished that has given their coach Tom Wisman cause for optimism for next month's European championship challenge round in Portugal.

We are establishing a team concept," Wisman said after Monday's 110-82 success at Birmingham had been followed by Tuesday's 101-89 victory at Brighton. The teams had made between venues on the same coach, which probably explained why England were rather less confident in the second game. "It was not what I would call a spectacular but we still managed to win under difficult conditions," Wisman said.

England's punishing programme of four internationals in four days had started with an embarrassing defeat by Scotland, which did as Wisman acknowledged give them the jolt they needed to defeat Austria the next night and Colombia, twice.

He is now in the favourable position of being able to strengthen a winning team by adding Tony Watson and Martin Clarke as soon as the two American-based students are free to leave their studies. Unfortunately that will not be in time for the two internationals in Belgium on May 2 and 3, but England's last fixtures before their departure for Portugal.

Two more months will then elapse before Wisman takes over as basketball coach of the public sports Centre in Hong Kong, a job he hopes to combine with his England duties.

## YACHTING

## Friendly way to code of the sea

United Friendly the 77-foot yacht that Chay Blyth recently raced round the world, will set off from St Katherine's yacht haven, Tower Bridge, tomorrow at the start of a voyage to publicize the Seaway Code, John Nicholls writes. This is a "Highway Code of the Sea" published today by HMSO on behalf of HM Coastguard Division of the Department of Trade.

Unlike their counterparts ashore there is no legislation to prevent inexperienced and unaccompanied "drivers" taking to the water, where often they become danger to themselves and others. The code sets out essential first principles for anyone intending to venture afloat, and should be read, powerboat, dinghy or canoe.

Belated returns  
An Italian yacht will be the last vessel to cross the finishing line at Portsmouth today in the 27,000-mile Whitbread round-the-world race. Viva Napoli will finish exactly one month behind the first of the 27 yachts to complete the last leg from Mar del Plata in Argentina to Portsmouth where the race started in August 1981.

## SQUASH RACKETS

## Hunt concedes unequal battle with injury

By Richard Eaton

Geoff Hunt, world champion until only six months ago and who set the all-time record of eight British Open titles only 12 months ago, has retired. A check on the back injury that prevented him from defending his British Open title earlier this month revealed serious hip problems as well as those in his lower back. "I did not intend to until I received medical advice. I was looking forward to winning the British Open once or twice more," he said. His words hint at the dreadful suddenness of it. A short while ago he was regarded as unbeatable. Now it is all over.

It was, though, unlikely that even a fully-fit Hunt would have been able to extend his great achievement further. It was clear to most who saw him lose his world title in November to the Pakistani, Jahangir Khan, then 17, that Hunt was unlikely ever to become the world's number one again.

Hunt thought he could and was determined to try. Though the loss to squash is incalculable, at least it is spared the sight of one of the all-time greats in a struggle with his equilibrium and with the prodigious talents of a much younger player at the same time.

This is a consolation, Hunt's record for good sportsmanship is second to none in squash and equalled by very few in any sport. It was possibly this that made him the most popular player here than in his own country of Australia. Curiously, his father, originally came from Plaitow, only a few miles down the river from the court at Bromley where Hunt set his great record last year.

Hunt is in many ways more typically English than Jonah



Hunt: an all-time great

Barrington, his great rival of 1969-74, who has a Welsh mother and an Irish father and who is as outspoken and controversial as Hunt is unassuming. "Geoff was not appreciated in Australia," Barrington said yesterday.

Hunt once said he would last only two months if he went at it like Barrington, but it was in response to his example that Hunt intensified his training to the point where he would run 30 fms. quarter miles with the smallest of recovery intervals.

The onset of the Pakistani, Qamar Zaman and Mohibullah Khan, in the mid-seventies also caused him to improve his short game, and recently he was adding a job and variations in pace. But with the onset of Jahangir he was unable to improve yet again at the age of 35.

He says he plans to work to expand the game and develop younger players in the future, which is good news. It would be a pity if he were to slip away unnoticed.

## SPEEDWAY

## Lions look top dogs

By Adrienne Blue

Two strong and swashbuckling sides line up for the England v United States five match series which begins tonight at Wimbledon. It is by no means certain that the Lions, victorious last season, will win. England's captain, Dave Jessup (Wimbledon), may well feel the need to practise more than his usual. He fields a highly experienced side which includes the 1980 world champion, Michael Lee (Kings Lynn) a former England captain, Malcolm Simmonds (Wimbledon), who at age 36 is said to be on the periphery of retirement (Belle Vue).

But the Lions' chief striker surely is Kenny Carter (Halifax), who already at 21 displays the skill, courage and doggedness of the best. The other four are Americans. Of the 112 riders in the British League 56 per cent come from abroad mostly Americans and Scandinavians.

In the two seasons of its revival this series has come to be regarded along with the Danish as a major trial in the speedway calendar. America won in 1980. The match concludes the weekend on May 2, at Poole, May 5, Ipswich, May 6 with the final international at Belle Vue, Manchester, on May 9.

## Marathon in danger of attracting too many celebrities for its own good

## Fun runners leave the athletes short of joy

Readers of that enduring little chronicle of the sport, Athletics Weekly, have recently been treated to a commentary on the popularity of the London Marathon. A correspondent wrote to tell of a friend who, when asked why he was not running, said: "They won't let me. I'm not a member of EQUITV."

Whenever a sport hits upon some offshoot which seems to grow bigger and stronger than the root itself there is this bitterness. Within it there is probably an element of jealousy but that something personal has become something public. There was a time when it would not have entered the heads of actors, journalists and even politicians to enter a marathon. Club enthusiasts believed that to finish the 26 miles 385 yards entitled them to be members of an exclusive club. You were something akin to a four minute mile.

There are now many who claim the marathon craze is destroying the event as a classic distance for exceptionally fit athletes. The London Marathon in particular is in dispute with many genuine competitive runners, as opposed to fund-raising and well meaning fun runners. Paradoxically, for years those "real" athletes found it difficult to understand anyone who failed to take an intense interest in the sport of athletics.

Out of the house and preparing for the London Marathon, some new potential Olympic champion could emerge. But the chances are that the sudden popularity of the marathon will not breed potential champions. Olympic winners are not glorified fun-runners. They require competitive preparation over shorter distances and they do not want to see the road running calendar swamped by marathons.

None of this alters the basic truth that the marathon craze has moved a healthy significant number of people from being armchair television sports watchers to active participants. There is nothing wrong with that and it is up to events organizers to cope with the numbers in such a way that the serious runners are not refused entry in order to accommodate those with little interest in the sport. The boom has inspired a host of books. The latest of these The Marathon Guide, by Don Shelly and Kevin Donovan (£2.95 including postage from 51-67 Bryan Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5AF) is a compact and comprehensive look at



The fun of winning felt by last year's joint London victors Beardsley (left) and Simonsen.

marathon preparation, the race itself and organization. It lists the year's events and will please many by including half marathons and other road races. A handbook designed more for reading than ready reference, The Marathon Book, by Neil Wilson, Andy Eichel and Bruce Tullio (Virgin Books, £2.50) also helps. It prepares the potential runner but looks more closely at the history and evolution of the event and studies individual runners.

The introduction to The Marathon Book quotes the coach Tom McNab as saying that athletics is a series of fantasies bounded by rigid rules, and of that series the marathon is the greatest fantasy of all. Since writing that McNab has ventured further into fantasy with a successful novel, Flanagan's Run (Fodor and Stoughton, £4.95).

A somewhat laboured opening suggested that this account of a cross-America foot race in the depressing days of the early 30's would require a colorful, thoughtfully constructed story which would undoubtedly be turned into a dramatic, romantic film. Apart from the marathon, the most documented athletics events of the past few years have been the achievements of Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett. Mel Worman, the editor of Athletics Weekly, as collated most of his magazine's reports on the careers of these two outstandingly talented runners and produced The Coe and Ovett File (Athletics Weekly 344 High Street, Rochester, Kent, £3.50).

Norman Fox

## La creme de la creme

## SECRETARY

## FINSBURY SQUARE EC2

for our modern offices in  
FINSBURY SQUARE EC2

A large international financial group requires a secretary with good organizational ability, excellent typing skills, experience in handling excellent shorthand, typing skills (min 100/60 wpm), educated to at least O level standard. This busy position entails working with a Manager, and an Associate Director who is in charge of developing business in Asia. This will be a responsible and interesting post for a bright person with a businesslike approach to their work. Word processing training will be given. The successful applicant will probably be in their mid-twenties.

Salary: £15,500. Benefits: Season Ticket loan, BUPA, Pension & L.V.S. If you have the right qualifications, please send your CV (inc. telephone number where possible) to Personnel Dept., Merrill Lynch Holdings Ltd., 3 Newgate Street, London EC4. All responses will be acknowledged, and dealt with in strictest confidence. (No agencies)

Merrill Lynch

## SYNERGY

## SEC/ADMINISTRATOR

Apply your administrative skills to the marketing of a new computer company. You will be responsible for the company's sales and marketing. You will be responsible for the company's sales and marketing. You will be responsible for the company's sales and marketing.

LUXURY TRAVEL  
A world famous travel agency is seeking a young lady to become involved in a wide range of travel services. Working as part of an enthusiastic team, you will use your personality and organizational skills to sell luxury travel services.

YOUNG PA/SECRETARIES  
Public Relations Secretary. Sales and Marketing. Good skills & a minimum of 6 months secretarial experience essential. The Recruitment Centre. 01-627 5653.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS  
Personal Secretary to the President of the Royal College of Surgeons. A very high level of competence and discretion is essential. A background in the medical world would be an advantage. Salary on Whitley General Agreement (GPA) £8,816 including London Allowance. Good fringe benefits. Applications in writing to: The Recruitment Centre, 01-627 5653.

PA/SECRETARY  
to work for the Principal in a small busy office in St. James's. Interesting and varied work in which initiative and the ability to deal with people are essential. Previous experience at executive level required. Age 25+. Salary around £8,000. Box No. 1785 G, The Times

SECRETARY MID 20's  
With good shorthand & typing for Senior Executive of small property group with lovely office in St. James area. Salary £6,500 net. Lunch and travel allowance. Christmas bonus. 4 weeks holiday. Write with full details and C.V. to: Box No. 1748 G, The Times

COMPTON SECRETARY  
£6,000 +  
With excellent basic skills and a salary of £6,000 per annum. Excellent opportunity for right person. Benefits include: Pension, Bonus, Holiday, and free travel. Write to: Director's Manager, 55 Whitehall, London SW1.

EUROPEAN RESEARCH/TRAFFIC POLICIES  
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SENIOR SECRETARY  
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For film production company, quiet, responsible and efficient person required to do a lot more than the job title would suggest. Salary negotiable on experience and proven ability. Please phone Lucinda on 724 7146. No agencies.

RECEPTIONIST TO £6,000  
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Recruitment Consultants  
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SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR  
A West End based fine art organization is seeking a mature, administrative assistant with excellent skills for its busy insurance department. Salary £5,500 per annum. L.V.S. 4 weeks holiday, season ticket loan scheme. Contact Personnel Department, 01-483 3099

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## SECRETARY/BOUS

## SW1 PROPERTY COMPANY (M/F)

Due to imminent motherhood we need a smart, well spoken person aged approximately 20-30 to join our small friendly team of six providing secretarial services in beautifully furnished Jersey Street offices. This is a unique opportunity offering a great deal of variety of work. Some of 100 shorthand and 55 typing are necessary and knowledge of word processing would be useful although we will train. TOP SALARY plus L.V.S. will be paid to the right person. Ring Stella—930 0136.

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Required for challenging position with our managing director, Shortland, typing, audio & office knowledge essential. Knowledge of French preferred but not essential. Office located in Earl's Court but shortly moving to new offices between Connaught & Park. Competitive salary £3,500 negotiable for successful applicant. Season allowance and 3 weeks holiday. Please ring reference for details.

Legal Audio/SH Sec. Negotiable to £7,000 + Bonus Scheme

RECEPTIONIST TELEPHONIST  
Required for busy Mayfair Architects. Must have pleasant personality and good telephone manner and able to deal efficiently with visitors. Salary negotiable on age and experience. Tel: Mr Chapman on 224 2444 for interview.

## SECRETARIAL

## SECRETARY TO FINANCE DIRECTOR

£7,000 P.A.  
Numerate, well spoken, efficient, well grounded secretary to Finance Director of a large company. Excellent opportunity for career development. Office in West End. Excellent salary and benefits. Tel: 01-483 5075

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VACANT HAVEN PA/Sec. for busy property (leasing) dept. in central London. Salary £2,500-3,000. Good fringe benefits. Tel: 01-483 5075

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY/PA for partner of busy West End firm. Salary £4,500. Tel: 01-723 0766.

MED. SEC. - SRV required for partner of busy West End firm. Salary £4,500. Tel: 01-723 0766.

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SPANISH/ITAL. SEC. 2 positions available in Italy. Salary £4,500. Tel: 01-723 0766.

MAJOR RETAIL GROUP based in London. Salary £4,500. Tel: 01-723 0766.

AUDIO SECRETARIES - We are seeking a audio secretary for a large company. Salary £4,500. Tel: 01-723 0766.

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## LEGAL AUDIO/SH SEC. Negotiable to £7,000 + Bonus Scheme

Work for a well known firm of solicitors who are willing to train



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Oxfordshire OX14 3HR.  
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Tel. 01-499 3201 or Paris  
3210.



# BIRTHS

**CHURCHILL**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Churchill. Both well.

**CRITCHFIELD**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Critchfield. Both well.

**DAVIES**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Davies. Both well.

**GREEN**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Green. Both well.

**LOOM**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Loom. Both well.

**PRICE**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Price. Both well.

**SIMON**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Simon. Both well.

**USBOYNE**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Usboyne. Both well.

**WHITTINGTON**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Whittington. Both well.

**WILLIAMS**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Williams. Both well.

**WOOD**—On 28th April, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Wood. Both well.

# DEATHS

**ANDERSON**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 85, Mr. J. Anderson, of 123 High Street, London, died.

**BROWN**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 78, Mrs. M. Brown, of 45 Park Lane, London, died.

**DAVIES**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 92, Mr. R. Davies, of 101 Victoria Road, London, died.

**GREEN**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 88, Mrs. S. Green, of 22 Whitehall, London, died.

**LOOM**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 80, Mr. T. Loom, of 34 Grosvenor Road, London, died.

**PRICE**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 75, Mr. P. Price, of 15 Regent Street, London, died.

**SIMON**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 82, Mrs. L. Simon, of 67 St. James's Place, London, died.

**USBOYNE**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 70, Mr. D. Usboyne, of 112 Portico, London, died.

**WHITTINGTON**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 85, Mr. J. Whittington, of 28 Grosvenor Road, London, died.

**WILLIAMS**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 72, Mrs. K. Williams, of 18 St. John's Wood, London, died.

**WOOD**—On Monday, April 26th, 1982, at the age of 88, Mr. H. Wood, of 40 St. George's Road, London, died.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN**—Where more of your money goes to research, the more you can help to save lives. Please donate to the Cancer Research Campaign.

**LEAVE A LIVING LEGACY**—By leaving a small sum of money to the Cancer Research Campaign, you can help to save lives and leave a living legacy.

**GRAEAE THEATRE COMPANY**—Britain's only group of Disabled Professional Actors and Actresses. We are looking for more people to join our company.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ANYONE surviving heart disease knows the value of research. It saves thousands of lives every year. To save even more, we need your help now.**

**British Heart Foundation**

102 Gloucester Place, London W1H 0DH

**Just Married!**

**A winning combination**

Tel: 01-898 3663

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Prices from: 1 w. 1 w. 2 w. 3 w. 4 w. 5 w. 6 w. 7 w. 8 w. 9 w. 10 w. 11 w. 12 w. 13 w. 14 w. 15 w. 16 w. 17 w. 18 w. 19 w. 20 w. 21 w. 22 w. 23 w. 24 w. 25 w. 26 w. 27 w. 28 w. 29 w. 30 w. 31 w. 32 w. 33 w. 34 w. 35 w. 36 w. 37 w. 38 w. 39 w. 40 w. 41 w. 42 w. 43 w. 44 w. 45 w. 46 w. 47 w. 48 w. 49 w. 50 w. 51 w. 52 w. 53 w. 54 w. 55 w. 56 w. 57 w. 58 w. 59 w. 60 w. 61 w. 62 w. 63 w. 64 w. 65 w. 66 w. 67 w. 68 w. 69 w. 70 w. 71 w. 72 w. 73 w. 74 w. 75 w. 76 w. 77 w. 78 w. 79 w. 80 w. 81 w. 82 w. 83 w. 84 w. 85 w. 86 w. 87 w. 88 w. 89 w. 90 w. 91 w. 92 w. 93 w. 94 w. 95 w. 96 w. 97 w. 98 w. 99 w. 100 w. 101 w. 102 w. 103 w. 104 w. 105 w. 106 w. 107 w. 108 w. 109 w. 110 w. 111 w. 112 w. 113 w. 114 w. 115 w. 116 w. 117 w. 118 w. 119 w. 120 w. 121 w. 122 w. 123 w. 124 w. 125 w. 126 w. 127 w. 128 w. 129 w. 130 w. 131 w. 132 w. 133 w. 134 w. 135 w. 136 w. 137 w. 138 w. 139 w. 140 w. 141 w. 142 w. 143 w. 144 w. 145 w. 146 w. 147 w. 148 w. 149 w. 150 w. 151 w. 152 w. 153 w. 154 w. 155 w. 156 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## Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Daville

| BBC 1   | BBC 2  | ITV/LONDON   | Radio 4   | Radio 3  | Radio 2  | World Service  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| <b>6.40</b> Open University: Landing an Aircraft; 7.05 <i>Police</i> ; 7.30 <i>Harbour</i> (ends 7.55); 8.27 For Schools: <i>Countdown</i> , <i>Geography</i> (What is on the land) 9.48 <i>It's Maths</i> ; 10.10 <i>Seeds and Plants</i> ; 10.35 <i>Scene</i> ; 11.05 <i>Search</i> (from 11.50 <i>Countdown</i> ); 12.30 <i>News</i> After <i>News</i> with Ian Ross and <i>Moira Stuart</i> ; 12.57 <i>Financial Report</i> . And news headlines; 1.00 <i>Pebble Mill</i> at One: Live in the foyer-studio — the singing star of the 1950s, <i>Frankie Laine</i> , still singing; 1.45 <i>Check-a-Block</i> ; 2.00 <i>You and Me</i> ; 2.15 For Schools: <i>Countdown</i> . <i>Music Time</i> and, at 2.40, <i>Television Club</i> : <i>Freemaster</i> shark; 3.00 <i>Closedown</i> ; 3.55 <i>Regional News</i> (not London); 3.55 <i>Play School</i> : <i>Widge</i> <i>Horsham</i> story. <i>The Hamp-backed Bridge</i> (also on BBC 2, at 11.00 am) | <b>6.40</b> Open University: <i>Ocean Cruise</i> ; 7.07 <i>Occupation</i> : <i>Brian's Britain</i> ; 7.30 <i>Cynical</i> . Ends at 7.55; 11.00 <i>Play School</i> . Same as BBC 1, 3.55; 1.25 <i>Closedown</i> . | <b>9.36</b> For Schools: <i>Spring in the Woods</i> ; 9.52 <i>Lambing in Yorkshire</i> ; 10.08 <i>Folk Dancing</i> ; 10.28 <i>Social Development</i> ; 10.48 <i>A-level Physics</i> ; 11.05 <i>Basic Maths</i> . 11.22 <i>All about Time</i> . 11.59 <i>TV</i> reporting; 12.00 <i>The Woolfies</i> : a surprise breakfast; 12.10 <i>Get Up and Go</i> with Beryl Reid and <i>Moira Stuart</i> ; 12.30 <i>The Sunbathers</i> : Australian family serial; 1.00 <i>News</i> from ITN. And <i>Financial Times</i> Index; 1.20 <i>Thames area news</i> ; 1.30 <i>Crown Court</i> : The jury's verdict in the case of the woman (Lynda Marchal) injured in the off-limits; 2.00 <i>After Noon</i> : <i>Play School</i> discussion on the "total allergy to the modern world"; 2.15 <i>News</i> treatment; 2.25 <i>Newmarket Racing</i> : We see the 3.40; 3.10 <i>The 1000 Guinea Stakes</i> ; and the 3.40; 3.50 <i>The Cuckoo Wakes</i> : comedy series, with Diane Keen and David Roper (1). | <b>6.00</b> <i>News</i> , including: 6.10 <i>Prayer for the Day</i> ; 6.20 <i>Today's News</i> ; 6.30 <i>News</i> . Headlines. 7.45 <i>Thought for the Day</i> . 8.33 <i>Yesterday in Parliament</i> . 9.27 <i>Weather and Travel</i> . 9.50 <i>News</i> . 10.05 <i>Checkpoint</i> . Roger Cooke investigates <i>Rogers' experience</i> of suspect dealing and <i>illusions</i> . 9.30 <i>The Living World</i> . 10.00 <i>News</i> . 10.02 <i>It happens</i> : A nationwide what's on magazine. 10.30 <i>Daily Service</i> . 10.35 <i>Bus Stop Glasgow</i> (4). 11.00 <i>News</i> and <i>Travel</i> . 11.03 <i>The Burt Scandal</i> , a look at the work of psychologist Cyril Burt and the scandal surrounding him. 11.48 <i>Enquiries</i> within. <i>Listeners' questions</i> . 12.00 <i>News</i> . 12.02 <i>You and Yours</i> . 12.26 <i>Yesterday's News</i> 1982. 12.55 <i>Weather and Travel</i> . 1.00 <i>The World at One</i> . 1.40 <i>The Archers</i> . 2.00 <i>News</i> . 2.02 <i>Woman's Hour</i> . 2.30 <i>Afternoon Theatre</i> : "The Girl in 27" by Graham Blackwell. 4.02 <i>Why I'm Me</i> with Robert Elms. 4.10 <i>Bookshelf</i> : Magazine programme about books. 4.46 <i>Story Time</i> : "A Short Walk in the Woods" by Eric Newby (6). 5.00 <i>PM</i> . 5.05 <i>News</i> : <i>Programme News</i> . 6.00 <i>News</i> and <i>Financial Report</i> . 6.30 <i>Any Answers?</i> . 6.54 <i>It's a Bargain</i> . Setting value for money. 7.00 <i>News</i> . 7.05 <i>The Archers</i> . 7.20 <i>Concert</i> : <i>Scottish Symphony Orchestra</i> in <i>Staged</i> 1 <i>Concert</i> : Kenneth Leighton, Britain. | <b>6.55</b> <i>Weather</i> . 7.00 <i>News</i> . 7.05 <i>Morning Concert</i> : Weber, Mozart, Brahms, Viotti, Sullivan; records. 8.00 <i>News</i> . 8.05 <i>Morning Concert</i> (continued): Gregor, Rossini, d'Albert, Mendelssohn; records. 9.00 <i>News</i> . 9.05 <i>This Week's Composer</i> : Dufay. 9.45 <i>Prokofiev</i> <i>Symphony No. 3</i> , record. 10.20 <i>Thos for Tenor</i> , Horn and Piano. 10.30 <i>Recital</i> : <i>Augusta</i> . <i>Pauline</i> , <i>Eugene</i> , <i>Viola</i> , <i>Bernhard</i> , <i>Kyrielle</i> , <i>Otto</i> <i>Michael</i> . 11.10 <i>The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra</i> <i>Concert</i> : <i>Ravel</i> , <i>Mozart</i> , <i>Brahms</i> . 1.00 <i>News</i> . 1.05 <i>News</i> . 1.10 <i>Lunchtime Concert</i> : <i>Concert</i> , <i>Quartet</i> , <i>recital</i> , <i>direct</i> from <i>St. George's</i> <i>Branden Hill</i> , <i>Mozart</i> , <i>Debra</i> . | <b>5.00</b> <i>Ray Moore</i> : 7.30 <i>Terry Wogan</i> . 10.00 <i>David Frost</i> : 12.00 <i>Gloria</i> <i>Munn</i> ; 2.00 <i>Ed Stewart</i> ; 4.00 <i>David Hamilton</i> ; 5.45 <i>News</i> and <i>Travel</i> . | <b>6.00</b> <i>World Service</i> can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (645 kHz) at the following times GMT: 6.00 <i>News</i> ; 6.30 <i>News</i> ; 7.00 <i>News</i> ; 7.20 <i>News</i> ; 7.30 <i>News</i> ; 7.50 <i>News</i> ; 8.00 <i>News</i> ; 8.15 <i>News</i> ; 8.30 <i>News</i> ; 8.45 <i>News</i> ; 9.00 <i>News</i> ; 9.15 <i>News</i> ; 9.30 <i>News</i> ; 9.45 <i>News</i> ; 10.00 <i>News</i> ; 10.15 <i>News</i> ; 10.30 <i>News</i> ; 10.45 <i>News</i> ; 11.00 <i>News</i> ; 11.15 <i>News</i> ; 11.30 <i>News</i> ; 11.45 <i>News</i> ; 12.00 <i>News</i> ; 12.15 <i>News</i> ; 12.30 <i>News</i> ; 12.45 <i>News</i> ; 1.00 <i>News</i> ; 1.15 <i>News</i> ; 1.30 <i>News</i> ; 1.45 <i>News</i> ; 1.55 <i>News</i> ; 2.00 <i>News</i> ; 2.15 <i>News</i> ; 2.30 <i>News</i> ; 2.45 <i>News</i> ; 2.55 <i>News</i> ; 3.00 <i>News</i> ; 3.15 <i>News</i> ; 3.30 <i>News</i> ; 3.45 <i>News</i> ; 3.55 <i>News</i> ; 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# Parents fight off Moonie attempt to see daughter

Mr Charles Raine and his wife, Hazel, facing an allegation that their daughter had been abducted from the Moonie sect for "deprogramming", fought off an attempt in the High Court in London yesterday to force them to disclose her whereabouts.

The sect, the Unification Church, said that Miss Nicola Raine, aged 28, who joined them in the United States, was being detained against her will on the instructions of her parents. However, its application for a writ of habeas corpus, requiring the parents to produce their daughter, was rejected.

Lord Justice May said that the sect's application was "unfounded" and that the parents were not obliged to disclose to others who have no authority to demand it the whereabouts of members of their family.

He said that on the balance of probabilities Miss Raine was, on April 6, "intercepted" by a person or persons unknown and persuaded not to return to the sect's British headquarters at Lancaster Gate in west London.

It was probable that she had been persuaded to go to the country where she met her parents, who live at Perry Mill Cottage, Ullenah, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire.

The judge said he did not think Miss Raine had been physically abducted. The court was not dealing with a child, but with an adult woman. She could easily have sought assistance by screaming.

After nine days with her

parents and perhaps friends Miss Raine probably went to the Continent, the judge said. According to the parents, she was still there.

Lord Justice May agreed that the mother's written evidence was "unfounded" and that the sect's application was "unfounded". But the court was not prepared to infer from that that she was now in the custody of her parents "and unable to escape if she wished".

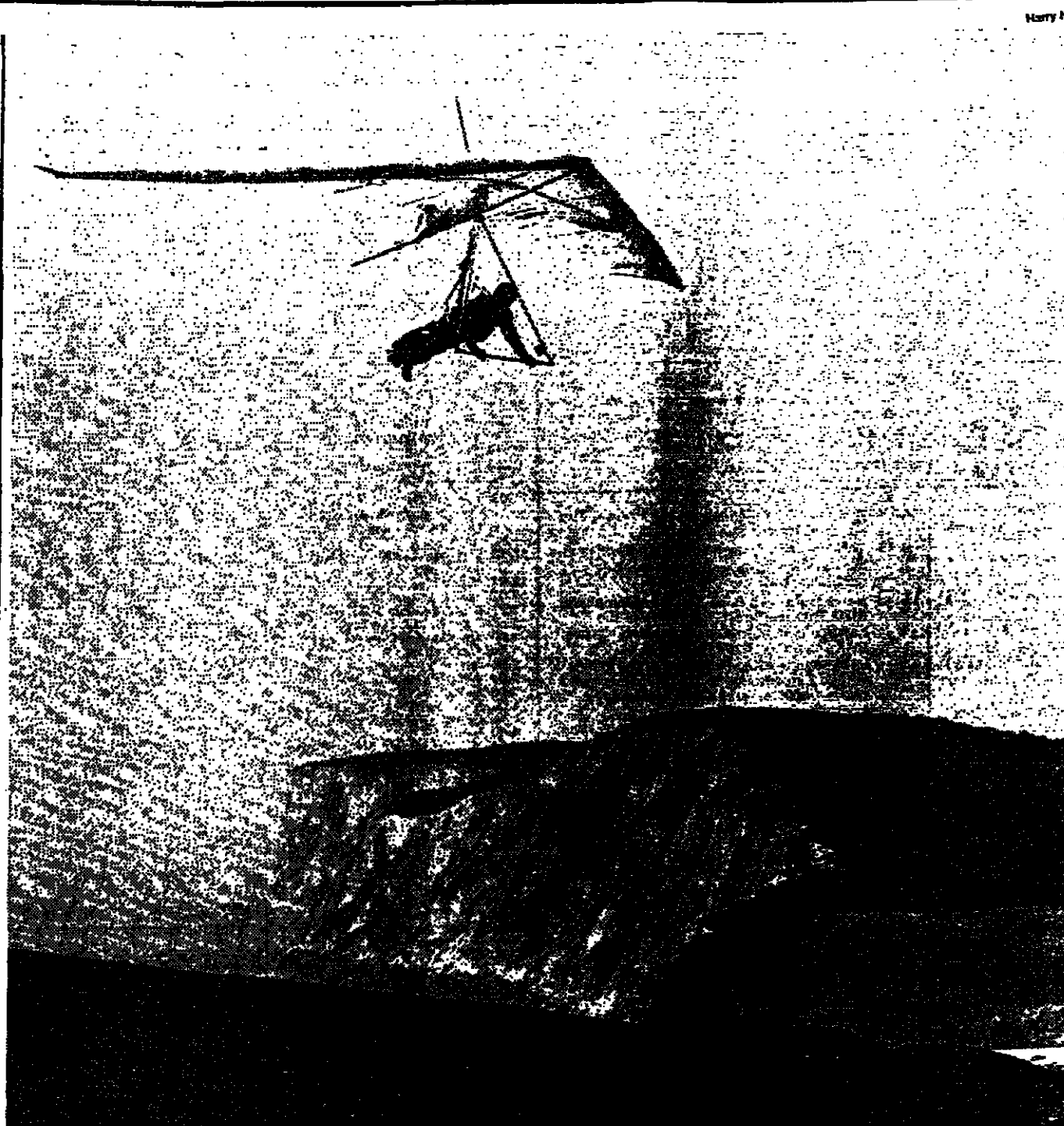
The judge said the mother was "understandably concerned" that the sect should not discover the present whereabouts of her daughter lest it should seek to reimpose its influence on her.

Although parents were not entitled to detain an adult daughter against her wishes, they were entitled to advise and persuade their children "if they think necessary, with emphasis".

The judge, sitting with Mr Justice Stephen Brown, said some people, and Mr and Mrs Raine in particular, had considerable hostility for the Unification Church, "which is clearly very possessive of its members".

Church members feared "deprogramming" the expunging of the sect's influence over the minds and wills of its members.

Afterwards Mrs Raine said they had been in contact with their other daughter, Fiona, also a member of the Unification Church and at present in the United States.



## Frank Johnson in the Commons

### Secret weapon of the wardroom

Somehow, after nearly four weeks of it, the crisis still has a dream-like quality. Is it really happening?

Those of us who are essentially creatures of the world, as it has been post-Suez, had been assured all our adult lives that Britain was no longer capable of doing this sort of thing. All the best people said so. Yet it seems to be about to try to do it, though the precise nature of the "it" remains unclear. Admittedly, the best people may have been right. There may be a debate. That does not mean thinking about, though. Think about it one must. But the best people have not been running this crisis.

Bartham Woman has been in charge. As well as being much else, the crisis is thus a test between two ways of looking at the world. It is either her or them.

Yesterday at Westminster was a hull. Within a few days we would know what the outcome would be. But that yesterday. The situation seemed as surreal as ever. The rational part of all our natures no doubt retained the hope that events would not turn bloody, that they would remain unreal. But what of the irrational part? What is the part which existence politicians, like the rest of us, cannot acknowledge, except in others. That is the part that by now, after all this waiting and shuffling, wants there to be dramatic events on the islands so that great parties in the state can revert to their tribal passions.

The Tories want to identify with the pomp and circumstance of glorious war. The Labour Party wants to accuse the Tories of warring-forging lives.

All of which is natural. But it is the strictest sense of the word, in keeping with nature, to deplore it, rather than point to it.

Yesterday's hull, moved about the place. Today is the Falklands debate. For that, and with experts adopting a moment of their own, it could well be for days the House will be little else. But yesterday the principals of the "struggle" — Mrs Thatcher, Mr Pym, Mr. D. Owen, Mr. Benn — were nowhere to be seen. The chair of the House of Commons, those few men who remained in the chamber for the main debate listened to exchanges about the (by comparison) peaceful subject of Northern Ireland. Even the other attraction, Scottish nationalism, seemed peaceful in comparison with impending events in the South Atlantic.

The day was proof of how in politics the sudden, convulsive turn of events can banish even the concern of more familiar concerns. Thus Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, commended his proposals for new elected bodies in Northern Ireland. Mr Concanon, Labour's shadow spokesman, was unenthused. Mr James Prior, for the official Unionist, was hostile, though. Mr Paisley, for the Paisleyites, was hostile and disagreeable. Mrs Shirley Williams, for the Social Democratic Party, wandered around in the middle in circles of goodwill.

But aloft in the gallery, one's mind kept drifting away into the South Atlantic. One does not really want anything horrible to happen, the inner voice of rationality kept on insisting. Was there any chance that, even at this late hour, the Falklands issue would revert to that harmless, Gilbert and Sullivan status it had always occupied until four weeks ago?

I began to invest high hopes in the effect on the agency's morale of that dinner, which our officers served those captured Argentine officers on board one of our ships after we took South Georgia. Word might by now have spread among the Argentine forces that this is what they can expect unless they quit the islands immediately. They'll think twice about taking us on now that some of them have felt six inches of cold, British food inside them. They'll know that a nation which can serve up lethal stuff like an average British dinner, is not a nation to be trifled with, that is, if they ever dared eat one of our tinned ones.

And there's plenty more where that dinner came from. Panic could even now be spreading among the Argentine brass that this is how the barbarous British treat captured officers. The clock is ticking. There is still time for them to avoid raising knife and fork against us.

## Benn fails with task force motion

Continued from page 1

They appear to have been the only in outline that the military options are, but they were not asked for their opinions and there was no detailed discussion.

The meeting was said by one participant to have been agreed to only with reluctance by the Prime Minister, after senior colleagues had urged her to give the Cabinet the fullest possible picture. From Mrs Thatcher's point of view it appears to have gone well, with confidence expressed in the inner Cabinet's handling of the crisis so far.

The Government was last night awaiting Argentina's response to the detailed proposals drawn up by the United States to resolve the

Falklands crisis before further violence breaks out in the South Atlantic (David Cross writes).

Whitehall officials said last night that the ball was now in Argentina's court as far as the diplomatic exchanges between London, Washington and Buenos Aires were concerned. They pointed out that Britain's latest views had been transmitted to Washington personally by Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, in his visit to Washington for talks with Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, at the end of last week.

The Foreign Office announced yesterday that a copy of Mr Haig's latest peace proposals had been

received in London and was now "under consideration" by Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues. It is understood that the formal proposals reached London late on Tuesday but were not discussed in any detail at yesterday's Cabinet meeting.

Labour's national executive yesterday rejected a call from Mr Wedgwood Benn that the task force should be kept from the Falkland Islands (Anthony Bevins writes).

But it unanimously endorsed a resolution repeating Mr Michael Foot's demand that the Government should respond "immediately and favourably" to the appeal by the Secretary-General of the United Nations that the "escalation" be halted.

## US peace mission

Continued from page 1

unbreakable spirit and faith in final victory," it declared.

The military junta, meeting in emergency session, issued its thirty-fifth and toughest communiqué on the crisis, leaving no doubt that the war machine was ready, and that conciliation efforts were now unlikely to succeed.

The communiqué, issued at 11 am local time (3 pm British time) after the declaration of the junta, said the Argentine expected military operations in 24 to 48 hours. In an apparent reference to the South Georgia victory, it rejected "the psychological action by the British invasion" which have strengthened Argentina's spirit and will to fight.

Virtually the entire fleet of nine destroyers, four submarines, one cruiser and the aircraft carrier, 25 de Mayo, was at sea tonight.

Admiral Cougher Allara, commander of the fleet, was on board the carrier, but it seemed that still he had not directed the main body of ships to enter the 200-mile combat zone surrounding the Falklands.

The latest American peace plan was passed to the Argentine authorities a few days ago by Mr Harold Shlaudeman, the United States ambassador in Buenos Aires. The junta today told Clarín, the Argentine newspaper with the best connections in the military, that the proposal fell short of the Government's conditions.

Against a background of cliffs at Freshwater Bay on the Isle of Wight, a competitor makes for the finishing line in one of the events in the British Hang Gliding Open this week (Frances Gibb writes).

Sixty competitors have entered the championship, the first international hang-gliding event to be held in Britain.

The competitor who gains most points over the eight days until Sunday, in such events as the Blackgang Run, a 10-mile dash at speeds of up to 40 mph from near the Needles to St Catherine's Lighthouse, receives £1,000.

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

#### Royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother attends the celebrations to mark the centenary of Queen Mary's London Needlework Guild: firstly a thanksgiving service in The Queen's Chapel, Marlborough Gate, 11.55, and later the annual general meeting in St James's Palace, 3.25.

The Prince of Wales opens new premises of Quaker Oaks, Bridge Road, Southall, Middlesex, 10.30.

and later visits the National Association of Asian Youth in Southall, 12.15, and the National Centre for Industrial Language Training in Southall, 2.30.

The Prince of Wales attends a lecture by Professor M. W. Thring, "Engineering for Humanity", at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1, Birdcage Walk, SW1, 6pm.

Princess Anne, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, opens the Jackie Brutton Riding Centre at Cheltenham Racecourse, 2.30.

**Exhibitions in progress**

The Treasures of Towneley 1802-1882: exhibition celebrating 80 years of the Museum Service and highlighting some outstanding exhibits. Towneley Hall Art Gallery and Museum, Burnley, Lancs. 10.30 to 5.30, Sun 12 to 5, closed Sat (until October 30).

Exhibition of paintings by Christopher Johnson, The Grange, Rottingdean, Mon. Thurs. Sat 10 to 5, Tues and Fri 10 to 1 and 2 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed Wed (until May 30).

Etchings by Jean Frelaut, Charrington Print Room, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. Tues to Sat 2 to 5, Sun 2.15 to 5, closed Mon (until June 27).

**Talks, lectures**

Weights and measures, by Anthony Wilson, Science Museum, 1.10.

Florentine paintings of the lower floor galleries, by Audrey P. Tyndall, National Gallery, 1.10.

Strange goings-on in Rome, by Richard Humphreys, Tate Gallery, 1.10.

J. L. L. and the return, by David Williams, 11.30.

Victorian Jewellery, by Judy Rudoe, 1.15; both at British Museum.

Workshop — Silversmithing, Museum of London, 1.10.

The Memphis tomb of Horemheb, commander-in-chief of Tutankhamun, by Dr Geoffrey Martin, British Museum, 6.15.

Snails and their relatives, Natural History Museum, 3.

Manuscripts from the Byzantine world, by Jane Lee, British Library, 2, Sheridan Street, W1, 2.

The Thames Walk: a slide talk by David Sharap, Central Library, St Nicholas Way, Sutton, 8.15.

**Music**

Recital by Paul Edmund-Davies (piano) and Rachel Masters (harp), The Hexagon, Reading, 1.10.

Piano recital by Marjorie Few and Norman Ferry, Stainforth Middle School, Church Road, Doncaster, 7.30.

**Walks**

A journey through Dickens's London, meet Embankment Underground, 11.

The City of London 2,000 years of history, meet Bank Underground, (Mansion House exit), 11.

City churches, meet Bank Underground (Mansion House exit), 2.

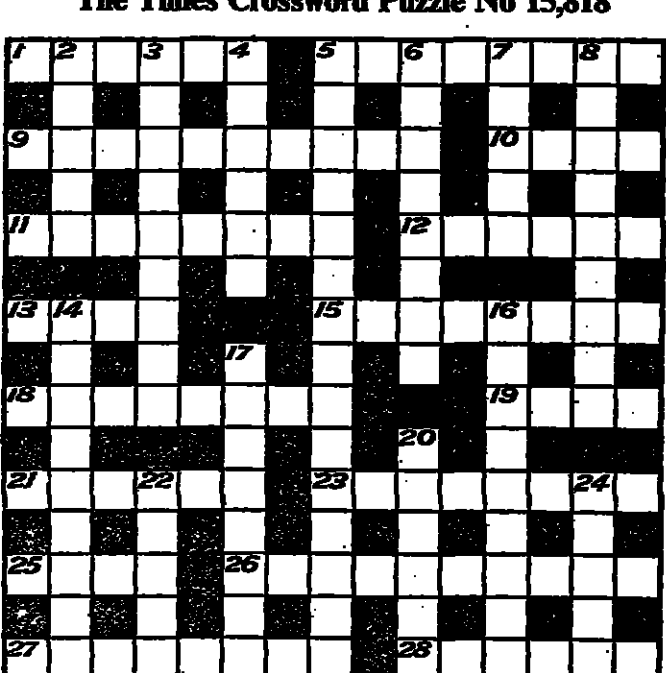
**General**

Health and Leisure '82: Alexandra Pavilion, Alexandra Park, Wood Green, N22, 11 to 7; admission: adults £2, children and OAPs £1.

Maritime England in floral art: Holker Hall and park, Cumbria, 10.30 to 8.

London Homes and Gardens Show, Rousham Park, Croydon, 11 to 6, admission £1.50 adults, children OAPs £1.

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,818



- ACROSS**
- University affected you and me (6).
  - This year involved great excitement (8).
  - Loyalty for instance in marriage (10).
  - Two notes, that's a lot (4).
  - Like Henry Morgan, perhaps, 's left it (8).
  - Gracious! An earlier model than C-nine did you say? (6).
  - Beware of place like Woolly Hole (4).
  - The siren's welcome song (3-5).
  - The infantry have to maintain some standing (8).
  - Weapon — we switched the sight (4).
  - Dramatist takes care of a minor character (6).
  - Right? 's right in every investigation (6).
  - Miscible oils in store (4).
  - Billy booked for being this? (10).
  - Turning after river, several came to grief (8).
  - Make speech about national leader being decorated (6).

**Down**

- In the end, this Titan didn't quite make it (5).
- Grant was a gift I had accepted (9).

**Solution of Puzzle No 15,817**

ACROSS: 1. UNIVERSITY, 2. THIS, 3. YEAR, 4. INVOLVED, 5. GREAT, 6. EXCITEMENT, 7. LOYALTY, 8. FOR, 9. INSTANCE, 10. IN, 11. MARRIAGE, 12. TWO, 13. NOTES, 14. THAT'S, 15. A, 16. LOT, 17. LIKE, 18. HENRY, 19. MORGAN, 20. PERHAPS, 21. S, 22. LEFT, 23. IT, 24. GRACIOUS, 25. AN, 26. EARLIER, 27. MODEL, 28. THAN, 29. C-NINE, 30. DID, 31. YOU, 32. SAY, 33. BEWARE, 34. OF, 35. PLACE, 36. LIKE, 37. WOOLLY, 38. HOLE, 39. THE, 40. SIREN'S, 41. WELCOME, 42. SONG, 43. THE, 44. INFANTRY, 45. HAVE, 46. TO, 47. MAINTAIN, 48. SOME, 49. STANDING, 50. WEAPON, 51. WE, 52. SWITCHED, 53. THE, 54. SIGHT, 55. DRAMATIST, 56. TAKES, 57. CARE, 58. OF, 59. A, 60. MINOR, 61. CHARACTER, 62. RIGHT, 63. S, 64. RIGHT, 65. IN, 66. EVERY, 67. INVESTIGATION, 68. MISCELLANEOUS, 69. OILS, 70. IN, 71. STORE, 72. BILLY, 73. BOOKED, 74. FOR, 75. BEING, 76. THIS, 77. TURNING, 78. AFTER, 79. RIVER, 80. SEVERAL, 81. CAME, 82. TO, 83. GRIEF, 84. MAKE, 85. SPEECH, 86. ABOUT, 87. NATIONAL, 88. LEADER, 89. BEING, 90. DECORATED.

**The pound**

| Bank         | Buy     | Sell    |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| Australia    | 1.75    | 1.67    |
| Austria      | 31.10   | 29.10   |
| Belgium      | 88.00   | 83.00   |
| Canada       | 2.24    | 2.15    |
| Denmark      | 14.83   | 14.08   |
| Ireland      | 1.26    | 1.21    |
| France       | 11.40   | 10.30   |
| Germany      | 4.38    | 4.14    |
| Greece       | 115.00  | 108.00  |
| Hong Kong    | 10.75   | 10.15   |
| Italy        | 2375.00 | 2275.00 |
| Japan        | 444.00  | 420.00  |
| Netherlands  | 16.43   | 15.25   |
| Norway       | 11.20   | 10.60   |
| Portugal     | 133.00  | 126.00  |
| South Africa | 2.25    | 2.08    |
| Spain        | 169.25  | 160.25  |
| Sweden       | 10.43   | 10.22   |
| Switzerland  | 3.64    | 3.42    |
| USA          | 1.84    | 1.77    |
| Yugoslavia   | 99.00   | 93.00   |

London: The FT Index closed up 5.1 at 575.3.

**The papers**

The Frankfurt Rundschau says Argentina's miscalculation led to the Falklands crisis. Blind aggression has backfired, but this makes the junta's predicament all the more desperate. The British brinkmanship in the greatest risk.

The Daily Mirror says the Falklanders must be left in no doubt that Britain cannot defend their islanders in perpetuity. Suggesting an offer of resettlement to the islanders to include perhaps Britain or New Zealand, the paper says serious fighting may now be inevitable, "but the Commons owes it to those whose lives are at risk to see that at some distant date they are not asked to risk them again".

The Morning Telegraph, Sheffield, says that for the sake of the railway industry, it is to be hoped that Lord McCarty's report, next week, resists the temptation to seek a compromise which fudges the vital issue of productivity.

**Calling Falklands**

The BBC external services has increased the frequency of its programme. Calling the Falklands from three times a week to nightly. The programme, broadcast on short-wave, begins at 10.15 each evening. Relatives and friends of the islanders can pass out messages by telephone 01-240 3456 (extensions 2757 or 2758).

**Stamp counters**

The number of Post Office philatelic sales counters reaches fifty next month with the opening of new counters at Southend-on-Sea on May 12 and Worcester on May 26. The new counters will sell the full range of philatelic items offered by the Post Office.

The Southend counter will be in the head Post Office, Western Road, and will be open Monday to Friday, 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 4.30pm, and from 10.30am to 12.30pm on Saturday.

Worcester's counter will be at the head Post Office, 8-10 Foregate Street, and will be open Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 12 noon, and 2pm to 5pm, and 9.30am to 12pm on Saturday.

**Marathon trains**

Southern Region is to run many extra trains between Charing Cross and Greenwich on Sunday, May 9, to take spectators and entrants to the starting point of the London Marathon in Greenwich Park. Half price "Weekend Anyday" fares to Greenwich will be available from most stations in the area. For full details, telephone 01-828 5100.

**New ferry service**

A ferry service between Liverpool and Belfast will begin on Saturday operated by Belfast Car Ferries Ltd. P and O closed its services on the route six months ago. The vessel on the new service is the 5,285-ton St. Colum, which has capacity for 1,040 passengers and 210 cars.

**Parliament today**

Commons (2.30): Debate on the Falkland Islands.

Lords (3): Administration of Justice Bill; report, Debate on EEC agricultural trade policy.

**Anniversaries today**

Sir Thomas Beecham was born at St. Helens, Lancashire, 1879.

John Cleveland, Royalist poet, died in London, 1658. James celebrates his National Day today because it is the birthday of Emperor Hirohito, who was born on April 29, 1901.

**Weather forecast**

A showery NW airstream will cover the British Isles.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central S and Central N England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Scattered showers developing, sunny periods, wind NW, moderate to fresh; max temp 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

E Anglia, E and NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee: Showers, sunny intervals; wind NW, fresh to strong; max temp 10 to 13C (50 to 55F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District: Sunny periods after showers, becoming cloudy with perhaps a little rain later; wind NW, fresh, moderating; max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

Wales, SE, and NW Scotland, Argyll, Glasgow, N Ireland: Sunny periods, a few showers, becoming cloudy with more general rain; wind NW fresh, moderating; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 50F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Showers, some windy; wind NW, fresh to strong; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 49F).

400ft.

SEAS: Passages: S North Sea: Wind NW, strong to gale; sea very rough. Channel: Wind NW, strong, sea moderate to rough. St. George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NW, moderate to gale in N Irish Sea; sea moderate or rough, very rough in N Irish Sea.

**Lighting-up time**

First Quarter: Tomorrow.

London 6.50 pm to 8.55 am.

Bristol 6.00 pm to 8.15 am.

Edinburgh 6.17 pm to 8.25 am.

Manchester 6.45 pm to 8.51 am.

Plymouth 6.55 pm to 9.01 am.

Sheffield 6.55 pm to 9.01 am.

**Yesterday**

Temperature at midday yesterday: a, very l, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z.

**Sporting fixtures**

Cricket: Cambridge University v Middlesex (11.30); Oxford University v Worcestershire (11.30).

Racing: Flat meeting at Newmarket (2.0), including the 1,000 Guineas at 3.10; NE at Hampton (2.15), Hereford (2.15) and Hexham (2.30).

Tennis: Cumberland Cup, at Hampstead.

Speedway: England v United States, at Wimbledon (7.45).

**London**

7 am to 7 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 7 am to 7 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

7 pm to 10 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 7 pm to 10 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

10 pm to 12 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 10 pm to 12 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

12 pm to 1 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 12 pm to 1 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

1 pm to 2 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 1 pm to 2 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

2 pm to 3 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 2 pm to 3 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

3 pm to 4 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 3 pm to 4 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

4 pm to 5 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 4 pm to 5 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

5 pm to 6 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 5 pm to 6 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

6 pm to 7 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 6 pm to 7 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

7 pm to 8 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 7 pm to 8 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

8 pm to 9 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 8 pm to 9 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

9 pm to 10 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 9 pm to 10 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

10 pm to 11 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 10 pm to 11 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

11 pm to 12 pm: 15°C, 65°F; min 11 pm to 12 pm: 10°C, 50°F.

**Around Britain**

| Station    | Temp  | Wind | Cloud | Pressure |
|------------|-------|------|-------|----------|
| London     | 12.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Birmingham | 11.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Manchester | 10.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Cardiff    | 9.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Edinburgh  | 8.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Glasgow    | 7.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Belfast    | 6.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Newcastle  | 5.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Sheffield  | 4.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Nottingham | 3.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Leeds      | 2.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| York       | 1.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| London     | 0.0   | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Birmingham | -1.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Manchester | -2.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Cardiff    | -3.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Edinburgh  | -4.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Glasgow    | -5.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Belfast    | -6.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Newcastle  | -7.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Sheffield  | -8.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Nottingham | -9.0  | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Leeds      | -10.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| York       | -11.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| London     | -12.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Birmingham | -13.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Manchester | -14.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Cardiff    | -15.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Edinburgh  | -16.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Glasgow    | -17.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Belfast    | -18.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Newcastle  | -19.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Sheffield  | -20.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Nottingham | -21.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Leeds      | -22.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| York       | -23.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| London     | -24.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Birmingham | -25.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Manchester | -26.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Cardiff    | -27.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Edinburgh  | -28.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Glasgow    | -29.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Belfast    | -30.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Newcastle  | -31.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Sheffield  | -32.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Nottingham | -33.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Leeds      | -34.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| York       | -35.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| London     | -36.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Birmingham | -37.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Manchester | -38.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Cardiff    | -39.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Edinburgh  | -40.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Glasgow    | -41.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Belfast    | -42.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Newcastle  | -43.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Sheffield  | -44.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Nottingham | -45.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Leeds      | -46.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| York       | -47.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| London     | -48.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Birmingham | -49.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |
| Manchester | -50.0 | 10   | 10    | 1010     |